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Elizabeth Leslie

from her attached Friend.

E. L.

Jan 22nd 1862

"Now is the acceptable time,

Now is the day of Salvation"

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MANNA IN THE CAMP;

OR,

SELECTIONS FROM THE

Letters of a Medical Officer

TO HIS WIFE,

DURING THE EASTERN CAMPAIGN IN 1854-55.

"I will direct all his ways."—ISAIAH, xlv. 13.

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PREFACE.

THE writer begs the readers of the following Letters to bear in remembrance the object of their publication — to do honour to that God who kept him as the apple of His eye during a campaign the most eventful in the history of the British nation.

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PSALM XXIII.

The Lord is my Shepherd;
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousnes for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For Thou art with me:
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil;
My cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

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Manna in the Camp.

LETTER I.

"My times are in Thy hand,
Whatever they may be,
Pleasing or painful, dark or bright,
As best may seem to Thee."

March 1, 1854.

5 P.M. — I have just arrived. There is very much excitement here, consequent upon the order that has been received for us to prepare for active service in Turkey. Our God and ever-gracious Father will bring us blessings out of the deep trial of our first separation. I trust in the Lord you are sustained. We expect the *route* for Dublin in the course of ten days.

LETTER II.

March 2, 1854.

Thanks to the Lord for His love in giving us friends wherever we are. I visited Eliza ——; her bodily

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strength is very much more reduced—her voice *very* feeble; she cannot last long. I gave her the "Eleventh Hour" tract, which I hope in the Lord she will find profitable. Satan at this time will use every effort to tempt us, and bring us down. We have to do with One who is all-powerful, whose promises are, "YEA AND AMEN IN CHRIST JESUS." May we be led of God's Spirit in earnest prayer for each other day by day, and may we know more and more of our precious Saviour's love. Our God will ever keep us, for He is a God of love, and His mercy endureth for ever.

LETTER III.

Dublin, March 10, 1854.

The sweet words of comfort you sent me this morning are from the Lord for our peace and strength; may we continue to feed on them till the Lord brings us together in His own best time. He has manifested His faithfulness and loving-kindness in having permitted us to be together for the last few days. We are indeed to feel that we are His, and let Him do what seemeth Him good. Our favourite Psalm, the twenty-third, was the subject of my meditation at the railway station, as well as the words "I will never leave thee," which I was applying to your own case. I trust you are not faint-hearted: be strong in the Lord, and be of good cheer. The Lord has already done wondrous things for us; we can safely lie passive in His hands, remembering His own words—"It is I, be not afraid."

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LETTER IV.

"Fear not, for I am with thee."—Is. xliii. 5.

On board the steamer T——, off Liverpool,
March 18, 1854.

The steamer R—— W——, having on board detachments of different regiments, left her moorings at the North Wall, Dublin, at a quarter before ten o'clock, P.M., on the 16th instant, and reached Liverpool the following morning, when the troops, consisting of 19 officers, 393 men, and 3 women, were transhipped to the vessel I am now on board of. The Lord give us an abundance of His grace to help in time of every need, that "as thy days so shall thy strength be." May we ever feel near to our sweet Jesus, and give up each other to Him. Do what you can for the poor women of the depôt. Rest fully confident that all things work *together* for our good, for we can see the Lord's hand graciously ordering in little things for us. And now I commit you to Him who is able to keep you from falling, who is able to sustain you amidst the confusion of this sinful world, who alone can fill up an empty space in the heart, and bind up its wounds. May the Lord direct you in all your ways. Farewell.

LETTER V.

March 21, 1854.

On our departure from Liverpool we were cheered

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by the inhabitants, which was answered vociferously by the men on board, little thinking, perhaps, how few among them would be spared to return! What an evidence that the world rejoices in the things of this life! The Christian is not so received on his journey; no crown of rejoicing for him till the fullness of time—the restitution of all things in Christ.

The shaking of the vessel by the working of the screw hinders me writing with comfort; but as I am in expectation of being able to send a letter by the Gibraltar post, I am anxious to say now what I can about the voyage. The Lord has been very gracious, for He has enabled me to remember words of comfort during the time I was too sea-sick even to open my Bible. I was able, however, to open my heart in prayer, through the Lord's wondrous grace, so that I could rejoice in spirit. The precious text-book, "Daily Food for Christians," was only what I could manage to look at, and the words for each day afforded me food that very abundantly supplied my daily wants.

The weather was very rough while crossing the Bay of Biscay, and one night a storm of hail and rain. The first sight of land after leaving England was Cape Finisterre, coast of Spain, calling to my remembrance that sweet hymn—

"There is a land of pure delight."

The coast of Spain is high, uneven land, but not very bold. There are no rocks presenting themselves in the sea close to the shore, a common feature on the coasts of other countries.

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To-day almost all the Testaments I received in Dublin were distributed among the soldiers. May the Lord give a blessing to this work, that the "Word, which makes wise," and "wise unto salvation," be received into their hearts. I have not had much inclination for reading till to-day, nor indeed can one read with profit when the mind is in a state of uneasiness and trouble, from "confusion around."

I retire to rest about nine o'clock, and rise about seven. Many of the men have been very ill; but now, thank God, there is a general improvement.

There is another medical officer on board. We take duty day about. The men are very greatly crowded. This is no place for ladies; they are to be pitied under such circumstances. They should never go with troops by sea, except when ample accommodation is specially provided for them. How wisely our Heavenly Father ordered for us, that you did not come with me. May we be always together in spirit, glorifying our God and Father for Christ's sake. Amen.

22nd.—Made Berling's Islands, coast of Portugal, this morning—the word "Berlinge" is differently written by authors. We are making Lisbon. The land along here is very productive in yielding fruit. A large convent to be seen; also fortifications, &c. Several fishing-boats like those off our own coasts; water smooth; temperature warm; slight wind; going at an average of ten or eleven knots.

I looked through the tracts kind Mr. M—— sent me, and value them much: several of them I have seen before; they are calculated to promote the

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glory of God. The Lord guide me in the distribution of them.

I now find myself greatly shut up. How sweet and happy to be looking to Jesus for peace and fellowship! We are then never alone—"I am with you *alway*, even unto the end of the world." Hold that fast; let no man take thy crown! At times I wish you were with me to behold the wonders of the Lord in the mighty deep. The circle around, formed by the apparent meeting of the sky and sea, and the little ship ploughing along through the trackless ocean, is a subject to interest the mind. The view of land breaks this monotony, reminding one of that verse in the fifth chapter of Jeremiah—"Fear ye not Me? saith the Lord. Will ye not tremble at My presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea, by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it; and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?"

23rd.—Land visible at ten o'clock this morning. Passed Cape St. Vincent during the night; now making for Gibraltar. Seven or eight vessels in the horizon. Read the 23rd Psalm, and finished last evening the Epistle to the Hebrews.

We greatly enjoyed yesterday afternoon, viewing the coast of Portugal. Saw the mouth of the river Tagus, and its windings in the distance; numerous little villages, windmills, lighthouses, groves of trees, like the fir species; and the sea disturbed by a vast number of porpoises, and large whales. Gave away two tracts to the soldiers, and a copy of that excellent little book, "A Warning Cry from

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Niagara," to an officer. Said a word for the Saviour to a few of the officers, but met with little encouragement. "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

Was much refreshed in reading Mr. Krause's Sermon on "The Lord is thy Keeper." This is a most precious word of comfort. I feel the need of the Lord's care especially in this place. May I feel daily my own nothingness, and weakness, and dependence upon the Lord, and know intelligently what it is to lean on the breast of Jesus, and say, "The Lord is my Keeper!" May you feel this also, that we may both be drinking from the same Rock, feeding upon the Bread of Life, and living nearer to our God day by day. May our hearts be loose to the things of this life, our affections set upon things above, laying not up for ourselves treasures which can profit us nothing. May we have grace to count all things loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord.

It is now forty-five minutes past two o'clock, P.M. We have just passed Cadiz, which is beautifully situated, rising, as it were, out of the sea; as also Conil, near Cape Trafalgar, which we are now coming up to.

I was reading "The Book and its Story," and was pained to learn that the Bible is not allowed to be read, or sold, in Portugal or Spain. God will have His Word sent as a witness to every people, and country, and no man can prevail against Him, nor alter the thing that is gone out of His lips. Nu-

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merous copies of the Bible have already been circulated in these countries, notwithstanding man's law of prohibition.

We passed Tarifa about six o'clock, P.M. Thirty-two vessels in full sail within view. The African mountains are seen to rise one above the other. I am thinking of my favourite hymn:—

"I want not India's pearly store,
I want the joys of earth no more;
I want to quit each vain delight,
I want to walk with Christ in white.

"I want to know my Saviour's love,
I want to fix my heart above;
I want more grace to conquer sin,
I want to feel more life within.

"I want to lean on Jesu's breast,
And feel Him my eternal rest;
I want the Spirit's purging fire,
More faith, more love, to raise me higher

"I want with Jesus to sit down,
I want to wear my heavenly crown;
I want the kingdom promised me,
I want no more, O Christ, but Thee!"

We have been very healthy thus far on the voyage. The Lord has graciously watched over us. Surely, "God is love." I had a conversation with an officer to-day. He said he did not believe all that was written in the Bible; that there was contradiction in parts. I replied, "*that is the expression of the natural man*, and that I believed every word of it, though I may be ignorant of the meaning of many

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passages; yet, to disbelieve it, is to be an infidel, as denying the Author." I added, "except you enter in at the Door of the Scriptures you cannot understand them. Christ Himself said, 'Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me.'"

This officer alluded to the subject of Jonah and the whale (numerous whales were seen at the time, not far off the ship). I asked him, "What did Jonah in the whale's belly typify?" I had to explain the circumstance.

We arrived at Gibraltar at eight o'clock in the evening. The vessel rolled greatly as we approached the rock, which presented a remarkable appearance at this hour—a dark, huge, lofty mass! The Lord be praised for having brought us in safety into this bay.

24th.—The day is sunny and warm. Such a moment as this raises one's heart in prayer and praise to the Father of light. "Light is sown for the righteous." May we have this light to establish our faith in temptations and trials, that the cares of the world disturb not our peace; may we have grace to walk acceptably with reverence and godly fear (Hebrews, xii. 28).

The town of Gibraltar is situated on the bay-side of the rock, near the neutral ground, which is kept by the English and Spanish sentinels. The other portion, extending towards the south extremity of the rock, is picturesque, being laid out in gardens and promenades, with pretty-looking houses, barracks, and hospitals, and an extensive line-wall of fortifications. There is a lighthouse at the point of entrance.

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Cholera having been reported in England, we were placed in quarantine, though the general health on board was remarkably good. We were able to get coal and water. Oranges, bread, &c., were passed up in baskets, but no man allowed to touch the vessel.

Numerous small fishing-boats, merchant-vessels, and one French man-of-war in harbour. We can also see several small Spanish villages, where the horrible practice of bull-fights is still carried on. Gave a tract to a Spanish crew.

We expect to be off to-night, or early next morning, and to be at Malta, God willing, on Thursday next.

The 44th Regiment has gone on from this to Malta. The ship's agent brought us a quantity of fresh vegetables this morning; they looked very tempting. What a contrast to England!

This ends my letter, and you will say, "Bless the Lord, O, my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name." "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want." May grace, mercy, and peace be with us. Amen.

P.S. — I know our ever precious Jesus will keep you, and be with you. This is my joy and peace. You are God's for Christ's sake. The dear child is a comfort to you I am sure; and may the Lord guide you in giving you wisdom for his care and management. May he be a joint heir with Christ. "Christ in him the hope of glory."

I am in excellent health, thank the Lord. Write to our dear friends the ——, and the ——, and tell them from me they are much in my thoughts. Dr.

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W.'s little hymn I like much. Tell him so from me, with my love to him, and his dear wife.

How anxious I am to know how you got on after we parted. I am confident of the Lord's care of you; *lean* upon Jesus *altogether*, and you will fear no evil. This is God's *strength in our perfect weakness*. I want fully to realize this word, "My grace is sufficient for thee." May the Lord bless us, and our dear child, for Christ's sake. Amen and amen.

LETTER VI.

March, 25th, 1854.

Left Gibraltar yesterday afternoon at half-past two o'clock—wind fair—weather as warm as in the middle of summer at home.

The Mediterranean side of the rock is very barren, rising very perpendicularly from the sea, and having on its summit a signal station. The coast of Malaga presents a grand range of sugarloaf-like mountains; the highest are more inland, and covered with snow.

We are now (10 A.M.) leaving Carthagina point, which is beyond Malaga. In summer time a cruise along this coast must be particularly gratifying and interesting. The most delicate person would hardly be ill: it is quite a sail of pleasure.

27th.—We had a view yesterday of that part of Africa where the French landed a few years since to engage in a lamentable war. It is said there are no whales in the Mediterranean Sea. Numerous turtles are seen floating, asleep, on the surface of the water. They are easily caught when turned on

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the back, in which position they are rendered powerless.

The captain of the steamer is a very nice person. I gave him the tracts, "I lay my sins on Jesus," and "Come to Jesus." He seemed glad to get them.

When passing Africa I was reminded of the hymn:—

"From Greenland's icy mountains,
From India's coral strand,
Where Afric's sunny fountains
Roll down their golden sand;
From many an ancient river;
From many a palmy plain,
They call us to deliver
Their land from error's chain."

I have been greatly comforted during the last few days, in that the Lord enabled me to speak to many on board of His love in Christ. "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."

28th.—The weather has been most delightful. The Lord has kept me in perfect peace. Oh! may we trust in Him at all times, that in passing through the valley of this dark world we may never be without the Great Light, making us glad and rejoice. Daily readings and prayer have been my delight.

"Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross I spend;
Life, and health, and peace possessing,
From the sinner's dying Friend."

We saw this morning a French man-of-war, with a vessel in tow, conveying troops and *materiel* of war. These are fearful times!

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The Word of God shall stand for ever!

Between nine and ten o'clock this evening we reached Malta, anchoring opposite Valetta. Thanks to the care and love of our gracious heavenly Father for this most prosperous journey!

The 9th Regiment arrived from Ireland this morning, after a voyage of thirty-two days. The Rifles, with Sir George Brown and Engineers, go on to Gallipoli to-morrow.

Report has it that some French troops have gone to Turkey. The general talk in Malta is, that there will be *war!* May God avert this impending calamity, and may we live in peace. The Word tells us, that "when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be."—Mark, xiii. 7. See James, iv. 1, 2.

I see the workings of human nature around me in its worst forms. I feel my position deeply; the Lord I know will be my helper. Oh! may I lean on Jesus, my only friend, who sticketh closer than a brother.

29th.—No camp equipage has yet arrived for the regiment; several of the regiments at Malta, however, are already encamped.

Look at the text for this day:—"The Lord is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge."—Psalm xciv. 22.

> "Poor though I am, despis'd, forgot,
> Yet God, my God, forgets me not;
> And he is safe, and must succeed,
> For whom the Lord vouchsafes to plead."

"When I said My foot slippeth, thy mercy, O Lord, held me up."—Psalm xciv. 18.

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You will exclaim, What a comforting message from our God, who doeth all things well! It gladdens my soul at this trying moment; and may I look more and more to Him who alone comforts the faint in heart, and lifts up the bowed down soul, and will not forsake the desolate. Adieu.

LETTER VII.

"We've no abiding city here:
This may distress the worldling's mind,
But should not cost the saint a tear,
Who hopes a better rest to find."

Malta, March 30, 1854.

Your letter, received this morning, was a source of great happiness to me, assuring me of the Lord's tender care and watchfulness of you in every way. May we both be sitting at the feet of Jesus, our loving Saviour and best friend in time and eternity, learning of Him continually. May our God and Father show us more abundantly His rich promises and blessings in Christ Jesus. Yes, my dear wife, let us hope in God, and let us be looking for the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, when the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our God, and of His Christ. May we realize this as an immediate occurrence, waiting as for the morning watch, "the morning without clouds!" Oh! wondrous love, wondrous things laid up for those in Christ.

When I look around and behold the splendid

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houses, and mansions, &c., and when I *do* regard them as one day to be a heap of ruin, I feel in "the solitary way;" I feel that I am living in a world of gross idolatry and darkness, and though alone, yet not alone, but possessing *all things* in Christ our Lord.

Our separation has caused a great blank in my lonely heart—a blank that Jesus can alone fill up. "I am with you alway, *even unto the end*," that's the word of comfort. "*I am with you* ALWAY." This is a blessed word at this time — a staff to lean on. I will try, the Lord helping me, to look for and to expect very much blessing out of this deep trial. I want faith, and the Lord will give me faith, and supply me with fresh assurances that He will do all things well for us. He will, too, give us light to lighten our way in the midst of darkness, that as the cloud is passing, we may behold a great light, burning brighter and brighter unto the more perfect day.

The cares and concerns of the world will thus not *darken* our way. We shall have the seed growing up under the light from God Himself, bearing fruit to His own glory.

The Lord has kept me wonderfully still. Oh! thanks, thanks to Him for Christ's sake; and He has also kept you in peace and comfort. The good Lord will yet bring us together; may we know no will but His. "God is love."

The conflict we are about to be engaged in will, I have no doubt, be awful. What a strong tower the Lord's people have! what a fortress! The gates of hell shall not prevail against it. "For I am per-

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suaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Dr. —— is well educated, is interested in medical missions, has much light, enjoys our morning and evening readings and prayers. This I know will make you rejoice and be thankful. Last evening we were conversing on the subject of St. Paul's shipwreck at Melita. We passed the place (St. Paul's Bay) which is referred to in the Acts.

I know the Lord will order all well for us both. We may be expecting largely from Him, that He will freely give us *all things* which he has promised to His people in Christ Jesus. He has already done so, and we want faith now to lay hold of this blessed promise for the future, renewed faith day by day.

The newspapers have given an account of the secret correspondence which took place between the Czar of Russia and our Government, in 1844. What a plot! Disgraceful and shocking! "Their feet are swift to shed blood; destruction and misery are in their ways, and the way of peace have they not known: there is no fear of God before their eyes."—Romans, iii. 15-18.

I suppose you read the statement made against the contractors of hay for the cavalry horses for Turkey. One would have supposed they would rather have sustained severe personal losses than have committed such an act of imposition. I only allude to the guilty party.

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I receive as a daily ration one pound of meat, and one pound of bread. No one that I have met can give any information on the precise requirements for service in Turkey.

I shall now give you a brief account of Malta. The state of Romanism, based on the Jesuitical plan, is considered an impregnable barrier to the present means adopted here for the spreading of the Word of God among the people—it is called "a dead wall." The lower class cannot read; nor are they encouraged to learn, but to remain in darkness and superstition, lest they should shake off the yoke of bondage which the priests have placed around their necks!

"A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so; and *what will ye do in the end thereof?*"—Jeremiah, v. 30, 31.

The priests go about in long clothing, black cloaks, and large-brimmed, triangular-shaped hats. Colleges, schools, monasteries, and convents, are very numerous. Bells are continually ringing, and the noise of them is most tiresome and unpleasant. Ireland is a peaceful land compared to this as regards opposition to the truth.

The Council is composed of priests (bishops), the Admiral, and a few of the resident officials. It endeavoured, a short time since, to pass a "code of laws," giving the title of "Dominanti" to the Romish religion; and several of the clauses in this Act went so far as to inflict punishment, with fines, upon all persons who attempted to show any disrespect to the Roman Catholic religion. The Go-

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vernor sent this singular code for the decision of the Home Government, which was by them rejected.

I do believe Christians, men "born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, *but of God*," will some day have to make a great stand; their faith I do believe will be strongly tried. Oh! that it may be found unto the praise, honour, and glory of Him who washed us in His own blood, and who enables us to "rejoice with joy unspeakable, and full of glory." Oh! that our child be brought into this covenant of grace and mercy, and his voice raised in honour of Him who died the just for the unjust.

Malta has four harbours—viz., Lazaretta, Grand, Dockyard, and Bighi, and consists of two great districts, Valetta and Florian on the one side, and Cottenera on the other. The fortifications are most superb.

The houses are of a yellowish colour, very lofty; the streets rather narrow, and very hilly in general.

There are three hospitals—viz., the Vittoriosa, Naval, and General. The Naval Hospital is a most beautiful building, well situated, and affording very excellent accommodation for sick officers and soldiers. It was originally intended for Bonaparte's residence.

The regiments in garrison are as follows:—Fusilier, Coldstream, and Scots' Fusilier Guards, 3rd, 4th, 9th, 28th, 33rd, 41st, 44th, 47th, 49th, 50th, 68th, 77th, 62nd, and 93rd Highlanders, with a large medical staff. Dr. Hall is expected from Bombay to assume the head of the medical department.

April 1st.—We have a precious text this morning;

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the psalm, too, is very comforting. I have to visit the ——, who, I trust, will be able to take a drive in his carriage. The weather for the last two days has been very cold, with showers.

LETTER VIII.

Malta, April 3rd, 1854.

I am thankful to be able to commence another letter to-day. There are twenty-five patients in my hospital. I had a long walk to visit ——, and most fatiguing it was, under a scorching sun. There are very few trees on this island; the ground is dry and rocky, so that the sun's reflection is prodigiously great. Visited the new garrison library, a very inferior building to the old one, which the Jesuits have taken possession of for a Maltese Library. The Jesuits have the lead in the Council. The military guards turn out to pay honour to the Roman Catholic bishop. I saw this day a procession of twelve ecclesiastics, robed in white, carrying a canopy of white linen, with lighted candles in their hands. This has reference to some dying person. Further on in the town stood an old man, in white, shaking a money-box, expecting help from the passers by for the souls of the dead.

I find it a very great comfort to be alone. I can have my readings and prayers more in secret, and happy communion with my ever-loving heavenly Father. When Dr. —— was with me I could not be so, for I felt his presence a hindrance. The Lord has been remembering me. He will not tarry.

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He is my helper, and the lifter up of my head. O, may I cast all my care upon my loving Saviour, for He careth for me.

My ——, I know you are pouring out your heart in prayer that the Lord may be very gracious in giving me a ready heart and a willing mind to know and to do His will, and to manifest a life of devotedness to the name, cause, and people of Christ.

During the voyage I felt my position at times most trying; and I can say with confidence and praise that the Lord has been my Keeper. He has surely done wondrous things for me.

4th. — Purchased a cooking apparatus for the camp. I must limit myself to as few things as possible, taking none but those that are really useful. How thankful that I am not of the fighting officers. I don't think I could raise my arm for the destruction of my fellow-man, when all my time and previous service has been spent in attending to the suffering of poor human nature! How could I do so, when I feel that it is contrary to the mind of God?

My dearest wife, these are fearful times! They remind me much, very strongly indeed, of the coming of our Lord! O, if He now came to bring to nought things that are! "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven."— Acts, i. 11. "Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's, at His coming. Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule, and all authority, and power."— 1 Cor. xv. 23, 24.

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It is reported that Austria and Prussia are recruiting rapidly for their armies, and that the Russians are advancing to cross the Danube.

The 44th, and about 300 of the 50th Regiment, embark this evening on board the Vulcan for Turkey, and the 28th Regiment leaves to-morrow.

On my return home this evening I opened my Bible for a word of comfort. My mind at the time was much unsettled. The Lord brought before me that passage which you long ago marked: — "I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only."— Psalm lxxi. 16.

5th.—Six steamers, carrying French troops, have arrived here since yesterday. A comet has appeared in the northern hemisphere for the last few evenings. The Maltese say it is an indication of summer, and often the earliest sign of cholera. The Maltese are a most benighted race, and are easily alarmed by a sudden rise of the sea.

6th.—I besought the Lord this morning to open a door for the distribution of the tracts in my possession, and afterwards I felt greatly strengthened by the words of the text—"The Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear."—Isaiah, lix. 1.

"Wait on the Lord, ye trembling saints,
And keep your courage up;
He'll raise your spirit when it faints,
And far exceed your hope."

"Fight the good fight of faith; lay hold on eter-

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nal life."—1 Tim. vi. 12. The morning hymn also gave me food:—

"Why those fears? Behold, 'tis Jesus
Holds the helm, and guides the ship;
Spread the sails and catch the breezes,
Sent to waft us through the deep,
To the regions,
Where the mourners cease to weep."

The Lord has thus given me a great feast, and filled my cup with joy. Taste, and see that the Lord is good!

7th. — I am thankful that this evening the Lord enabled me to give several tracts to the soldiers in the naval hospital. I look for a blessing. The Lord, I trust, will direct me in every way how to make known His Word.

The heat at Malta during the summer months is very intense. The winter is mild, and most agreeable for invalids.

8th. — I had a happy prayer this morning. Dr. —— was with me. How very peaceful and joyous it is to be in sweet communion with our God and Father, who gave His Son to take away our sins, bringing us nigh through the blood of the everlasting covenant. May I grow in grace, and in the wisdom and knowledge of Him who shed His blood for me, the spotless Lamb of God! How very different are man's thoughts and ways—"every imagination of the thoughts of his heart is only evil continually."—Genesis, vi. 5. Man may forgive the trespasses of his fellow-man, but he cannot forget them; but God not only forgives sins, but remem-

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bers them no more—"they are blotted out as a thick cloud" cast into the depths of the sea! "The Lord is my goodness and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and He in whom I trust."—Psalm cxliv. 2.

LETTER IX.

"The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."—Psalm xlvi. 11.

Malta, April 9, 1854.

I despatched a letter to you yesterday. We are under orders to embark *to-morrow* for Turkey. We do not expect to sail till the following day, so I will not close this till the last moment.

"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."

This confidence in the Lord's goodness gives me the assurance that He will do for you and the child, more than ever I can ask or think.

Evening.—I attended the —— church, and heard a discourse on the forty-fifth verse of the one hundred and nineteenth psalm—"I will walk at liberty; for I seek Thy precepts."

There were five officers and about ten of the Guards among the congregation.

10th.—Your precious letter, dated 24th ultimo, reached me this day at the very best time. The

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sweet words of comfort in it tend to keep me peaceful in the midst of all the excitement consequent on the embarkation of the men. How very doubtful my heart is at times. I want more faith to walk less by sight. I am so thankful you have been permitted the privilege of helping the poor soldiers' wives. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

We have much reason to rejoice in the Lord, and to trust Him *at all times*. I must be off to the ship. Farewell. The Lord be with you and the dear child, and abundantly bless you both for Christ's sake. Amen.

LETTER X.

"O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall shew forth Thy praise."—PSALM li. 15.

"O God, our shield."—PSALM lxxxiv. 9.

On board the steamer ——,
April 12, 1854.

I have had much to comfort and cheer me in the midst of much darkness and sadness. The Lord be praised for being a very present help in time of trouble. We have reason to trust Him and to bless His holy name at all times, for He has been with us, telling us, "Be not afraid;" yet my own doubting heart will not fully trust Him. "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Psalm lxxxiv. 11).

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This is the first quiet moment I have had since Monday last. We cannot but remember the day of our separation; that day was indeed one of great darkness;—the Lord giveth a light to them who sit in darkness; He teacheth them of His love in Christ Jesus, and those who walk in this blessed light know God as their Father, and Jesus as their Saviour.

The regiment embarked on board the troop-ship ——, which we have taken in tow. The officers had to put their cabins in order, as nothing was provided but a bedstead; a few slept on the knapsacks of the men! The officers had also to make provision for their own messing, which is generally attended with considerable trouble and inconvenience, though in this instance the committee appointed to obtain supplies did their duty well.

On the 11th we hauled out of Malta harbour, and held on to the "Farewell Buoy" to await further orders. It was then that I, with six other officers, was transferred to the steamer ——. The cabin I now occupy is a large one, very nicely furnished, excellent attendance; the saloon is long and wide, and a very good table is kept. I have to be most grateful for this change.

While at anchor in Malta harbour, an agent brought me a parcel and two letters; one of them was from yourself—a farewell one—and the other from Captain ——, very much to cheer me. The parcel contained your very valuable portfolio, which I am now using, and Mr. Krause's Sermons (vol. iii.).

We have been some hours at sea, and I do not feel the least ill. How good and gracious of the Lord!

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We are going at the rate of seven and a-half knots. The camp equipage of Lord Raglan is on board.

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I must add a few words on Malta. I think it is a very dark, benighted place, and I fear there are very few hard-working Christians there. I hope I may be wrong, and I pray that men of God be raised up to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ Jesus. The people are awfully dark, and altogether under the dominion of the priests. We want men, called of God—faithful men, of good report. I heard Mr. —— preach, as I informed you in a former letter. His discourse seemed to me to teach more of the morality of the age, and the bondage of the man of fashion, than the glorious Gospel of the grace of God. The Maltese observe the outward appearance of the Lord's Day far more strictly than the people in our own country. When I was in Paris, in 1845, the day was not at all observed after twelve, noon.

13th.—We are going nine knots; wind fair; all sail set; no sickness; passed an excellent night. Read yesterday two or three of the sermons, and another this morning; they are very precious and refreshing; they bring man down, and exalt the Lord; they prove man to be a bankrupt, and Christ responsible for the need of all that come to God by Him.

We want, my ——, to know what we are by nature, and what Christ has accomplished for His believing people. May I learn more and more of self-abhorrence, and more and more of love to God for His unspeakable gift; love to Jesus, who loved me from everlasting to everlasting. This, my ——, will make us happy.

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14th.—At anchor in the Bay of Vatica, 10 A.M. Last evening the wind got up right ahead. We moved very slowly, having an immense heavy ship in tow. We made Cerigo, however; and this morning, when I first came on deck, it was blowing a hurricane. We were glad to have this bay to put into for shelter, as we could not go on our course. It was only a wonder we did not part with our drag.

There are numerous small Greek villages in clusters along the slope of the mountain that partially surrounds this bay. We are in three fathoms water, very close to land.

The following extract is from Brooke's "History of the Hebrew Nation" (1841):—"In the year 1818, the Emperor Alexander of Russia, in order to encourage the Jews to turn their attention to agriculture, granted a tract of land, in the government of Cherson on the Black Sea, to remove thither and settle, and a colony of 4,000 Jews is now to be found there." This "History of the Hebrew Nation" is very interesting; I don't know if you have read it.

We passed last evening Capes Sapienza, Caliera, and C. Gallo. The thermometer yesterday was 70°; to-day it is 48°. The weather is intensely cold—snow, hail, and rain! My fingers are perishing.

15th.—Wind greatly moderated; a fine day, however. The land looks well; mountains very high; those farthest off covered with snow.

Went on shore at half-past 9 A.M., with several of the officers, some of whom were armed. An extensive sandy beach. Walked over an irregular plain, which had been covered by the sea at some remote period. Numerous rivulets flowed down the moun-

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tains, the banks of which, some distance from the beach, presented a most remarkable appearance, from immense quantities of oyster-beds having assumed a petrified state.

The shooters had no sport; it was fatiguing work climbing up the rocks, &c. Saw several flocks of a small description of sheep, each flock having its own shepherd. The shepherds were dressed in large capotes, covering very miserable garments. I called an old man with two children to come to me; they seemed afraid to move, so I approached and handed them two tracts, which they would not receive. I placed the tracts beside a bush, and passed on, when one of the children immediately picked them up. I met another man taking care of mules, and gave him a tract, which one of the officers told me afterwards he destroyed. "Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days."—Eccl. xi. 1.

We now formed a strong party, and went on to the village close to the beach, where we met a number of the inhabitants, a fine-looking race of men, wearing red cloth caps, and long loose coats, of a remarkable character. The schoolhouse was closed, but the Greek master permitted us to see its interior arrangements. We found one large room, with several writing-desks, and arranged as in our schools at home. Examined the manuscript copy-books, which were most creditable, superior even to the capabilities of the children of English schools. I then inquired if the Word of God was read and taught? The master showed me a "Catechism" book, and in reply to my question repeated a few verses of the 1st

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chapter of the Gospel of St. John, which certainly warmed my heart to him.

A merchant from Trieste happened to have been with the master at the time of our visit, who acted as interpreter through the French language, and to whom I gave a package of tracts in French. May the Lord raise up a standard in this place to His own glory, for Christ's sake. I was most happy in having been thus privileged to spread a word for the Saviour in the village of Neopolis!

I found a real comfort from the morning's text—"Men ought always to pray, and not to faint," and the 47th Psalm gave me great confidence in the distribution of the tracts, bringing *glad tidings of unspeakable joy* to the poor inhabitants of Morea!

I am persuaded He will keep me as the apple of His eye: may the trial of my faith bring glory and honour to His holy name. I am here on board the vessel as a dumb man that cannot speak. The amusements generally practised have only tended to shut me up to myself. I am thus driven away from the storm of the world to know more of the lasting peace that is in Jesus — how He is *above all!* The Lord has brought us out of danger, and placed us in this harbour of refuge; He has quieted the raging sea, and made the storm a calm. "Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did He in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places." — Psalm cxxxv. 6.

At half-past 5 P.M., left Vatica—passed C. Angelo—wind still a-head.

16th.—The Lord be praised for all His mercies in Christ Jesus. Sea smooth; wind fair; going eight knots; the tops of the Negropont covered with snow;

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now passing the Straits of Douro. The land appears to have undergone volcanic eruptions. Numerous windmills on the highest point of Scio, and a large town on the slope of the mountain.

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Read this morning the 12th chapter of Exodus, the 5th of Romans, and the 2nd and 113th Psalms, in addition to our own reading. That in Exodus is a beautiful portion of Scripture—the *passover*. "The precious blood of Christ which cleanseth from all sin."

There was much consultation this morning about the conducting of "Divine Service," how much should be read, and how much omitted!

I retired to my cabin for reading and prayer. What comfort and privilege I felt in having boldness to enter into the presence of our God and Father, the way being sanctified by the blood of the everlasting covenant! I need much of the Lord's presence here — much of the Spirit's teaching—for I have to keep my mouth as it were with bit and bridle. We want, my ——, to be always living near to our God. The very excellent sermons you so thoughtfully sent me are most refreshing in this dry land.

I pray the Lord to bless them abundantly to my soul, as well as to all who may have the privilege of reading them.

If the Lord permit us to be together again, may our hearts be kept in perfect harmony, filled up with a good measure of the spirit of Christ, through the power of the Holy Ghost, remembering His loving kindness, which has been ever of old.

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17th—Passed Teneidos and Basitra Bay, and then entered the Dardanelles, which is defended by fortifications on each side. The ruins of Troy, and the town of Achilles, were plainly seen. The cypress-trees added to the solemnity of the scene.

I was thinking all last evening of our separation that day month. We are in the Lord's hands—let him do what seemeth him good. Man's wisdom is surely foolishness.

Oh! our God, how wise and good thou art in all thy arrangements; and yet the people will not hearken — they will not turn. How sweet the text for this day:—

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."—Isaiah, i. 18.

"For Him who wash'd you in His blood,
Ye saints, your loudest songs prepare;
He sought you wand'ring far from God,
And now preserves you by his care."

"Now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off, are made nigh by the blood of Christ."—Eph. ii. 13.

Hope thou in God, for he is our strength, and shield, and hiding-place.

The sail up the Dardanelles is truly delightful. A town is prettily situated about a mile and a-half from the entrance, and is well fortified. The minarets give a very striking appearance to the towns. They are round towers, attached to the mosques,

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having a gallery near the top, from which the priests cry to the people to pray.

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Reached Gallipoli at one o'clock, P.M., and received orders to leave as soon as possible for Scutari, taking two vessels in tow.

The town of Gallipoli, like most Turkish towns, is poor and miserable. 15,000 French, and 5,000 English troops are encamped in the vicinity. An officer of the 44th Regiment came on board, and gave a most deplorable account of the want of provisions, and the suffering from the cold state of the weather. General Brown is commanding. The officer referred to congratulated us that we have orders to go on to Scutari.

I understand the armies from Gallipoli and Constantinople are to meet at Adrianople; but it is as yet most uncertain if any great engagement with the enemy will occur.

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How seldom we hear men speak of God's love to poor, perishing sinners. God's love to man, and man's natural hatred of God, who gave His own dear Son to die for fallen man!

Several fine large French men-of-war are at anchor close to us.

I am looking to the Lord to become acquainted with some one interested in the reading of His Word. My secluded state may have the effect of leading me to know more of God's love in Christ. May His spirit, indeed, take of the things of Christ, and show them more plainly unto me. When I have such an High Priest, who has entered into the

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holiest *once* for all, surely I can, with boldness, come to a throne of grace and lay my case with the Good Shepherd.

I have spoken to one or two of the officers on the one thing needful, receiving little encouragement. I was much strengthened in reading the sermon "Rejoice in the Lord *alway*." When the believer does not rejoice, it is owing to *sin*. The Lord has declared, "My grace is sufficient for thee."

The distance from the entrance of the Dardanelles to Gallipoli is about thirty-seven miles. The coast of the Dardanelles is not so picturesque as one might be led to infer from the account generally given of it. The Strait, however, is very interesting, and one is struck with the entire view being so very different to anything we have seen. It is a sail you would enjoy very much.

19th. — Arrived in the Bosphorus at half-past 10 o'clock, A.M., yesterday. The appearance of the city of Constantinople from the Sea of Marmora is truly magnificent, presenting one most extensive range of buildings, as far inland as the eye can reach. The mosques, with their lofty minarets, add considerably to the elegance of the city. The mosque of St. Sophia is a very fine-looking building. The view is certainly grand, but a close inspection of the streets and houses discloses the most deplorable wretchedness.

The Barracks at Scutari are large, the accommodation so miserable and dirty, that it is most surprising no preparation was made for the reception of the British troops. Last night we slept five in the same room. An arrangement has been made, by

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which the number will be reduced to three. The first night we had to sweep out our own rooms, and were greatly inconvenienced.

The dress of the Turkish women is very peculiar; instead of a bonnet, or cap, the head and face, excepting the eye region, is covered with thin white muslin; the colour of their eyes is dark brown. The Turks are very hostile to all religious sects differing from their own.

I am now writing from the hospital, which is a very fine building, but without proper accommodation for the medical officers, who are obliged to put up with six or eight in the one room. The Guards, and six other regiments, are hourly expected. The confusion is more than can be conceived. The soldiers have been put into barracks, totally void of all regard to cleanliness. This is to be the place for the grand depôt. Everyone here for himself. The Division to which I belong may be off at any moment. The Turks want manner; they have an indolent way of doing things.

Late in the evening.—I have been doubting and fearing, not having heard from you; yet I know the Lord is able to bring me tidings of you, and to do more for us than we can even ask or think. His grace is wondrously displayed in having brought us out of darkness into the marvellous light of the Gospel of His dear Son! My readings for this day are as follows: — 3rd chapter of Mark, 8th of Revelations, and 51st Psalm. If we are permitted of the Lord to finish the Psalms, Gospels, and Epistles, we can begin them again. We have to keep asking the Lord to be led of Him in the searching of the Scriptures.

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LETTER XI.

"The Lord is good unto them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeketh Him."—LAM. iii. 25.

Scutari, April 20, 1854.

You would wonder at the trials and temptations that have beset my pilgrimage since we parted. I am sure you must have experienced some of them yourself, for Satan is never idle, and takes advantage of every opportunity to disturb the believer's peace. The Lord will find a way for my escape.

21st.—This is a most delightful day. A large encampment is to be formed on the plain near the barracks, beyond which is a most extensive burial-ground, crowded with tombstones and cypresses. It seems to have a voice to the city—"Turn ye, turn ye, why will ye die?"

Visited Galata, where I received a very affectionate reception from the Missionaries of the Free Church of Scotland.

22nd.—I was much supported by the petition in our morning's reading, "Judge me by Thy strength."

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LETTER XII.

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."—EPH. iii. 20, 21.

Scutari, April 22, 1854.

I do not wish to retire to rest without putting down a few words for your comfort and strength, at this time of dark trial. The Lord grant us His blessing, that His name be glorified in all our circumstances. Two cannot walk together except they be agreed. May our God and Father give us His grace to have our hearts united in thought, word, and deed, for Christ's sake. I wrote you this morning, enclosing Captain T——'s letter, which I hope you will be able to answer. You will be glad to know the text he sent me—"Make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Heb. xiii. 21).

23rd.—The Lord's Day. I felt the need of fellowship with Christ's disciples this day. I was, however, alone, but my joy was full; Christ, my shepherd, provides for my necessities, and gives me all I want. He is very precious when His people are much tried by the circumstances of

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this world. Being orderly officer to-day in the hospital, I am unable to leave it. C—— called; I gave him tracts for distribution.

24th.—Mr. T—— purposes giving out 200 copies of the New Testament to the men of the regiment. There were fifty-two prisoners this morning, chiefly cases of drunkenness. This is a most trying place, and Satan knows his time for working on the hearts of men to tempt them to do that which is evil. I am looking to the one only source for strength and help to avoid excitement. None of us can bear it with impunity; we all suffer. May the Lord give me grace to walk worthy of my Christian calling, to give no cause to others to cast dishonour on the name of Christ.

The Jews believe the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah refers to their own nation. They look for Elijah before the coming of our Lord (see Matthew, xvii. 12). The Armenians are inquiring into the truth. The Jews have no figure of disrespect with reference to the Cross of Christ in their houses of public worship, as some have said.

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26th.—The confusion is more than I can well explain. The medical officers who have arrived here, as acting on the Staff, find considerable difficulty in getting servants to attend upon them, so that many of them have to cook and clean their clothes as best they can, besides performing very important hospital duties. This is certainly too bad on the part of the authorities, to withhold military attendants from the over-worked medical officers of the British army.

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The men's minds are greatly excited. The men of —— regiment broke into the barrack canteen, and let off the wine, &c., from the casks. The poor dogs, which act as scavengers, are most cruelly treated by the Turkish soldiers.

27th.—Visited the Juvenile School in connexion with the Free Church Mission at Galata. The children were examined in my presence in history, arithmetic, &c.; translating English into Italian, &c.; all which they did most creditably.

I visited the Bazaar at Stamboul, which disappointed me beyond description; it is a dark, wretched, benighted-looking place.

"My God! the spring of all my joys,
The life of my delights;
The glory of my brightest days,
And comfort of my nights!

"In darkest shades, if Thou appear,
My dawning is begun;
Thou art my soul's bright morning-star,
And Thou my rising sun.

"The op'ning heav'ns around me shine
With beams of sacred bliss,
When Jesus shows that He is mine,
And tells me I am His.

"My soul would leave this cumbrous clay
At that transporting word;
Mount up with joy the shining way,
To see and praise the Lord."

28th.—Your letters were very comforting to me this morning; and though my heart sinks down at times, faith keeps me up, and enables me to lay hold

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of the rest that remaineth for the people of God—a mansion eternal in the heavens!

29th.—I am now about to conclude this letter with a long good-bye. It makes me solemn and lonely; but I know we shall yet praise Him, in whom we are at times so apt to lack confidence, "for with God all things are possible." We need only to trust Him for His love, His goodness, and His forbearance. How God does bear with His people!—what a Shepherd we have!

How thankful I am to be under a roof, and not under canvas. Lord Raglan arrived this morning. The encampment is extensive; a grand sight it presents.

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LETTER XIII.

"O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of His praise to be heard; which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved."—PSALM lxvi. 8, 9.

Scutari, April 30, 1854.

Our God and Father is giving me faith in this dark season to look up to Him in confidence. We have an inexhaustible supply of rich treasures in Christ, and we cannot ask too much from Him, for He remembers our necessities.

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May 2nd.—The poor soldiers have much to con-

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tend with—bad covering, &c. A vessel with artillery arrived to-day. The news respecting the bombardment of Odessa reports that three sailors were killed and seven wounded, on the side of the English. The Russians sustained a loss of about 500 men, by the explosion of a powder magazine in a fort.

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I have had many conversations with my associates here on the subject of religion. One of the medical officers asked me last evening to read for him the thirty-fifth and fifty-first Psalms. You will generally find almost every one able, more or less, to say something upon the ordinary topics of religion; but take a man aside from the opinions of the world, and speak to him of his ruined state by nature, and the *complete* salvation in Christ Jesus—the need of being born again to enter the kingdom of heaven—and you will find that man silent, except he be taught of God the Holy Ghost. The Lord be ever with us, for Christ's sake. Amen.

3rd.—I read this morning Mr. Krause's sermon on "Justice and judgment are the habitation of Thy throne" (Psalm lxxxix. part of verse 14). Man would naturally try to be independent in all he does; but God overrules man's acts, and applies them to the carrying out of His own purposes. Oftentimes the following passage brought peace to my soul:—"In the world ye shall have tribulation, but in *Me peace.*" When the child of God is tossed about by an unbelieving world, God's Word reminds him he has "an anchor of the soul both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil, whither

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the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus" (Hebrews, vi. 19, 20).

The poor soldiers are most thoughtful in continually sending money to their wives at home.

I pray the Lord to dispel the cloud from the minds of our friends the ——, and give each and all of them the light of the glorious Gospel of Jesus.

The late Mr. Krause has put forward a statement which is very striking, and well to remember—"This is what we are sometimes charged with, who say, that the basis of Christian character and Christian practice is Christian doctrine. O it would be a poor reward for our labour, if we were merely to bring men from thinking one thing to think another." Christ is all; nothing but Christ; Christ in thought; Christ in word; Christ in deed; Christ the head of all; the author and finisher; the early and latter; the Alpha and Omega; the beginning and ending. Oh! what is man, out of whose heart proceed evil thoughts, having, too, that unruly member, the tongue, which no man can tame. Good night. May we glory in nothing, save the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the Triune Jehovah, be glory, glory, glory, for Christ's sake. Amen.

4th.—I met Lord Raglan out riding this afternoon; he appeared very well. Dr. —— is very ill; took cold after a Turkish bath, for which he was bled. I hope to visit him to-morrow, if the Lord permit.

I have much to do at present; an increase of sickness, partaking of a serious character. No wonder,

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indeed, from the overcrowded and dirty state of the barracks.

Dr. M—— called to invite me to his house at Constantinople, which I could not accept. He gave me many useful hints on field equipment, and hoped I would take up my abode with him at his country house on the Bosphorus in summer. A party of the 77th Regiment struck tents this morning early, and marched off in support of the artillery encampment, some miles distant. If Sebastopol is to be attacked this year, the work will be very hard and severe. Very many thanks to dear Mrs. W—— for what she has so kindly done for me. I forgot to make this acknowledgment of her kindness in my letter to her husband.

5th.—The Lord has been very gracious in bringing me in health to the beginning of another day. A part of Stamboul was on fire last night; an officer called me to get out of bed to see the burning mass. The red flames reflected a magnificent glare over the rest of the city, and brought the sea of Marmora, the Bosphorus, with all the shipping, into brilliant view.

LETTER XIV.

"I will go in the strength of the Lord God; I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only."—Psalm lxxi. 16.

Scutari, May 5th, 1854.

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The Lord will bring every good thing to pass for

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us. We can lean on Jesus, in whom we have eternal riches.

I dread all the confusion and excitement surrounding me; it is hard to keep from being mixed up in it. There is talking and smoking almost continually going on in the room I occupy. There are four of us together; each has a *corner* to himself, and this is the only place of seclusion I can go to, except I wander through the fields. I sent a tract with my letter to Dr. ——, with whom I have frequently conversed. I have often thought of our intended plan to send a Gospel tract to every medical officer in the British army. What an excellent opportunity the present offers!

I was informed to-day that the Koran forbids the Mahomedans living in stone houses, which the laws of the country now sanction. A party of officers intend to visit the mosques to-morrow. The cost of obtaining a *firman* is ten pounds, which I could scarcely believe. I thought it so absurd that I declined joining the party. No one can enter a mosque without taking off the shoes; slippers are provided for visitors.

6th.—The text this morning has often recurred to my mind — "I, the Lord thy God, will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."—Isa. xli. 13.

"Then let our humble faith address
His mercy and His power;
We shall obtain delivering grace
In the distressing hour."

Dr. W—— and I enjoyed a long walk together

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the scenery is truly delightful; the calmness of the sea, the beautiful greenness of the fields and gardens, the prettily-situated houses, &c., beyond Scutari, all presented so picturesque a character, that we were quite charmed. On our return the moon was almost vertical, and it was brighter than I had ever seen it, even in northern latitudes.

7th.—This morning your most precious letter of the 20th of last month reached me, filling me with joy and thankfulness. My patience was almost failing me. I assure you I am at times very impatient; but, I can tell you with confidence, the Lord enables me to rejoice, for He is keeping me, and giving me strength to endure the trial of my faith. I am most thankful that so many of my letters have already reached you. My cup runneth over this day. We can be together in spirit, and we can say, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time."—1 Peter, i. 3, 4, 5.

. . . . . .

The Rifles and 93rd Highlanders arrived this morning. I have been asking the Lord to bring me into contact with His people in Christ, and now I am expecting He will do it very shortly.

Our God we can trust through His wondrous grace; He gave His Son, that sinners through Him

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may have eternal life; and when He has revealed His love unto us in the face of His Son Jesus Christ, *we can gò on our way rejoicing.*

I have just removed into another part of the hospital; this moving continually upsets one, but our rest is not here. I received a note from Dr. ——, for a book to read, requesting me to call and spend an hour with him. I found him much improved, his attack passing away satisfactorily. He begged I would read and pray. I selected the 25th Psalm, a favourite of your's. We had much conversation together, and I felt happy in having the opportunity and privilege of this little employment in the Lord's service. I gave the Doctor the 3rd volume of Krause's valuable sermons. I gave that excellent tract, "The Eleventh Hour," to Mrs. ——, who promised to put it into circulation at Constantinople.

8th.—The history of the Armenian hierarchy is one of ambition, avarice, and cruelty! What a mixture in the world! Some are even found who make merchandise of men's souls! God and His salvation shut out, and man setting up a salvation of his own! These are blind leaders of the blind!

I had a long chat with the orderly officer of the day. I referred to many passages of Scripture to show the fallen state of man; that man is nothing, God everything. The Lord bless His own Word to the pulling down of strongholds, and setting up Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. May the Lord bring His own people together in the camp to bless and praise Him for His unspeakable gift!

9th. — I am now writing in a tent. I hope to be regularly established in my own to-morrow, if t[illegible]

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Lord permit. We have a large medical staff. The young officers from the regiments are very intelligent, and do credit to the department. I am most marvellously sustained in the performance of my duties, the Lord be praised.

The world is very strong here; but Christ says, "I have overcome the world;" and in 1 John, v. 5, it is written, "Who is he that overcometh the world but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" The natural man cannot understand this, which is the very joy and glory of the Christian. What wondrous grace to one so sinful! I know the world, and my own sinful heart would try to rob me of this sweet peace. This is a sad trial we are passing through. It becomes light when you remember what dear Mrs. —— said, "You can roll all your care on Him, who careth for you." This removes my anxiety. We need not be afraid. We are pilgrims journeying to a distant, happy shore; "and there shall be no more death; neither sorrow, nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain."

The Lord bless you, and give you an abundance of peace and joy for Christ's sake. Amen.

LETTER XV.

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory, both now and for ever. Amen."—2 Peter, iii. 18.

Scutari, May, 11, 1854.

I am now encamped, with several others, in the hospital enclosure. The door of my tent faces the

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Sea of Marmora, from which, also, I can see the Olympus covered with snow. Steamers are continually arriving with troops. Each regiment enters the camp with its band playing "*Partant pour la Syrie.*"

12th.—I had a most delightful ride along the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus, enjoying the beautiful scenery, and the fragrancy of the atmosphere. My mind was much solemnised in observing the numerous and extensive burial-grounds as I passed along.

"The hour is coming in which *all* that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth." "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die."

We should not have our hearts set in any way upon the things of this life; they will never satisfy, but disappoint. Our treasure being in heaven, our hearts should be there also.

13th.—The weather is very changeable. Heavy dews at night, and a scorching sun in the day, have tended greatly to catarrhal affections among the men.

14th.—A severe storm this afternoon, with loud claps of thunder.

I have been thinking much of the Lord Jesus, and that passage in John, "Without Me you can do nothing." We want to feel and to act on this, making Christ the responsible one. "If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." We have only

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to do with Christ for whatever we want. He is the good Shepherd—our cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. Let your love be to Jesus, who washed you in His own blood, and say, "I have no friend like Jesus." Good night! I now purpose reading our evening chapter, and bringing you and the child before our God and ever-watchful heavenly Father in the name of our loving Saviour.

15th.—Thank the Lord for having brought me your two letters, with one from our kind and thoughtful friends, Dr. and Mrs. W——. I was in great need of them. God's love towards us is very manifest. May our hearts respond in gratitude and praise to our tender Father, who is continually meeting the wants of His children, teaching them of His love, and the precious promises that are abundant in His dear Son, who came to do His Father's will, and *did it.* May we be led to feel that "we can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth us." You can scarcely credit how frequent are my interruptions.

In preaching the Word of Truth, we must not be discouraged by anything. We have to sow by the side of all waters.

. . . . . .

17th.—I was orderly officer for the day, yesterday, and was put into a room covered with fleas, &c. I passed, in consequence, a most miserable day.

The rations issued to the troops are very good; the supplies from England so much talked of have not yet appeared.

The men are in strong health, and seem anxious to be engaged with the enemy. The army is no place

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for the Christian at these times, and therefore not at any time. The exposure to his soul's welfare is very dangerous; and I question much if the profession of arms is consistent with godliness. I feel I could not handle the sword. What a contrast between the medical officer and the fighting officer—the one to heal, the other to kill. I stand in great need of praying friends, that I may be strengthened in grace, and have faith to lean altogether on Jesus, who has overcome all things by the victory which He has accomplished, and now sitteth at the right hand of God as our High Priest, ever remembering His blood-bought people.

18th.—I am in excellent health this day, thank the Lord. I visited Captain —— again, who was suddenly attacked this morning. He is now almost well. The great talk is in reference to God's purposes in this trying war, that Christians will be enabled to Christianize this benighted land. No doubt God's purposes will never be altered, but strictly fulfilled, let man do what he pleases. But why is the destroying weapon, the sword of steel, to take the place or go before the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God?

When —— has the confidence of a pardoned sinner in Christ, he can behold the kingdoms and possessions of the earth as loss. Be watchful of every enemy; let none take possession of your heart. The less we think of ourselves, the more will we feel the need of looking to the Saviour, and regarding Him as our "all in all."

Evening.—I have had great feasting on your

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dear letters; the newspapers, too, have afforded me very much interest.

. . . . . .

The drums have done beating—I'll betake myself to the reading of the Word of God. May I dig deep into that Word, and find the hid, unsearchable treasures in Christ Jesus. "The diligent soul shall be made fat." Good night, my ——, the Lord bless and keep us for Christ's sake. Amen.

19th.—C—— has been with me; he wants to get up a Bible meeting. The Lord direct us. How wise the Lord is! His ways are past finding out! "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." I feel happy to be engaged in the work of the Lord; happy that it is by God's grace I am so occupied. I have been long looking for the door which is now opened for me. May I have boldness to enter and make known the truth as it is in Jesus, none making me afraid.

I am obliged to have my clothes packed up in my portmanteau at night, to avoid the damp from the heavy dews.

> "Afflicted saint, to Christ draw near,
> Thy Saviour's gracious promise hear;
> His faithful word declares to thee,
> That *as thy days thy strength shall be.*"

"If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

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LETTER XVI.

"Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen."—Rom. xv. 33

Scutari, May 20, 1854.

There was a fearful storm last night—severe lightning, thunder, and rain. In the midst of it all I had great peace. I opened my Bible at the seventy-fourth Psalm, and was greatly comforted by reading the second verse—"Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old; the rod of Thine inheritance, which Thou hast redeemed; this Mount Zion, wherein Thou hast dwelt."

An officer of the 93rd Highlanders was drowned last night on his way from the barracks to the camp. The account of his death is most melancholy.

I was rejoiced to find you were reading in the hearing of your new nurse; may she receive the Word with joy and gladness to the saving of her soul, for Christ's sake.

There is too much truth in the report of the sad want of supplies for the troops at Gallipoli. Some authorities will not admit that there is mismanagement in the various departments.

I visited the Grand Bazaar, where there were numerous Jews engaged in trade, chiefly in the exchanging of money. That passage occurred to my mind—"The Lord overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of them that sold doves."

In 1843, Sir Stratford Canning, then British Am-

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bassador at Constantinople, demanded from the Government of the Sultan a pledge, signed by the Sultan himself, that "no person should be persecuted for his religious opinions in Turkey." This received the support of the French Government, and after some delay, that of the Russian. It arose from the awful circumstance of a man having had his head taken off because "he left the true faith—that is, Mohammedanism." The custom in such cases is to leave the headless body on the ground for three days (!), with a superscription of the accusation conspicuously stuck up near the spot, specifying that this man was "taken in the dress of an apostate," and that his crime was "apostasy."

What wondrous things our gracious Father has done for us! When I reflect on His dealings of love towards us, O how I wish I could praise Him as I ought! Expect nothing but *good news* from me. The Lord can do what He pleases with me, and surely "God is love." We need not doubt Him, but trust Him wholly; therefore let our hearts not be afraid; let us be above every earthly circumstance, abiding in Jesus, our fortress and deliverer, in whom we can safely trust. It is joyful for us to be persuaded that "Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."—Romans, viii. 38, 39.

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LETTER XVII.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."—PSALM xlvi. 1.

Scutari, May 26, 1854.

Three prominent subjects occupy my thoughts at this time. 1st, God's love in Christ; 2nd, yourself and the child; 3rd, the probable difficulties of my position in the field. In all these we find the everlasting source as the spring of our joy, that in Christ are hid the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I can regard you both with the everlasting arms beneath you. Jesus, the shepherd of the sheep, taketh the lambs in His arms, and carries them in His bosom. We need not tremble, though every mountain and island were moved out of their places. Christ is the head over all; every good gift and every perfect gift cometh down from the Father of lights, in whom is no variableness or shadow of turning. *Be still* at this wonderful period in human history—wonderful on account of the war and confusion. The conflict will, no doubt, be awful. The Christian has to look up, and *largely* expect from above. My state of mind at this time would be truly wretched, if I did not know God in Christ. What peace can the natural man have? In the language of Scripture, "*no peace.*"

This evening, being the Turkish Sabbath, is cele-

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brated by brilliant illuminations. The Turks reckon the hours of each day differently to us. The first hour after sunrise is one o'clock with them, and so on till sunset, when the hours are commenced again.

My heart rejoiced to-day in having met a Christian man in the 93rd Highlanders; the joy of our meeting was mutual. I expect the Lord's people will be greatly tried in this war. They have nothing to daunt them when the Lord is on their side; but they must be faithful in profession and practice.

27th.—"I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever; with my mouth will I make known Thy faithfulness to all generations" (Psalm lxxxix. 1). Passed the day at Hasskia, where the Free Church has a Mission; its labours are principally confined to the Jews, and a few British families in the employment of the Turkish Government. We ascended the hill above this suburb of Constantinople, which affords a most beautiful and extensive prospect of the Sea of Marmora, the lofty Olympus, Scutari, the Bosphorus, Stamboul, with the remains of the old Justinian wall; and, in the opposite direction, Jewish burial-places, and the situation of the windings of the far-famed "Golden Horn."

. . . . . .

The Jews are in general ignorant; they run over their prayers in a very formal manner, and infidelity is advancing among them. On our return we sang a hymn, read the second chapter of second Timothy, and concluded the evening with prayer. You can well imagine the happy privilege of thus meeting with those who love the Lord Jesus. My heart was much moved in behalf of the Lord's people exposed

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to the horrors of war, that their brethren in peaceful countries would remember them at the Throne of Grace.

I understand Colonel —— is a pious man; I hope, the Lord permitting, to call and make his acquaintance. This is a time when the children of God have to stand out valiantly in defence of the truth.

28th.—Mr. ——, one of the chaplains, politely bowed to me in the hospital. I availed myself of the opportunity of speaking to him. We soon recognized our oneness in Christ; he invited me to enter his tent, where we passed a very short time happily together in reading and prayer.

Private —— tells me there is a spirit of inquiry among our men; that the Lord, he believes, is showing Himself here. Dr. —— gave me an account of a Captain in the Artillery who was in the habit of distributing tracts on board the vessel that brought him out to this country, which led me to open the Bible, and read several passages, to prove to him that a man cannot love the world and love God; no two can walk together except they be agreed.

29th.—The Light Division, under Sir Geo. Brown, struck tents this morning at two o'clock, and departed by sea for Varna. We expect to follow in a few days. C—— entered with me into some interesting conversation upon the sixth verse of 1 Peter iv.—"For for this cause was the Gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the flesh." Jesus speaks of Himself as "the life," being the only *way* to the Father. All who are not of Christ are spiritually dead. Those who are brought

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under the sound of the Gospel trumpet are responsible to obey the call. Now the condemnation is "on them that know not God, and that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Cor. i. 8).

The Secretary of the Auxiliary Bible Society has just sent me a kind note, enclosing a resolution which he wishes me to second at the next meeting:—"That the circumstances of this country at the present crisis call for special efforts from Christians of all denominations for the widest possible diffusion of the Word of God, as the best preparative for whatever events may, in the providence of God, be in reserve for these lands." The meeting is to be held at Pera.

Evening.—I have just been visiting Dr. ——, who speaks candidly upon subjects of religion. He told me he cannot realize in his heart the Lord Jesus as his Saviour, though he does not entertain a single doubt on any part of the revealed Word of God. We read the third chapter of the Gospel of John, and as the Lord enabled me, I explained to him the nature of being "*born again,*" and what *faith is.* I then referred to passages in the eighth chapter of Romans, how God manifests Himself to His people, "who are the called according to His purpose." "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

Christians should live up to their privileges, and not be merely satisfied "with the principles of the doctrine of Christ."

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I look forward with some hope to our being together before the winter.

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LETTER XVIII.

"We are as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags."—ISAIAH, lxiv. 6.

Scutari, May 31, 1854.

I had the pleasure of meeting the chaplain attached to the British Embassy at dinner yesterday. He is a dear Christian, and read for us the first chapter of 2nd Peter. I concluded with prayer. It is very happy to find the great unity that exists among the members of the missionary circle at Constantinople.

The fast of the Ramazan commenced a few days ago, and will not be over till forty days. During this period the Turks are not permitted to eat from sunrise to sunset. The mosques are brilliantly illuminated every night.

We had a grand review this day for his Imperial Majesty the Sultan. He wore the national headdress, a red cap, or fez, fitted close to the head, with a large black tassel; a plain military frock coat, with a sword and gold belt. He was attended by a few armed soldiers, and was escorted to the parade-ground by Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge. The 17th Lancers appeared remarkably well. The Sultan celebrated this occasion by giving each man a pint of porter.

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The vessels which took up the Light Division to Varna are returning for us.

It is very hard that officers should be obliged to purchase their own horses, and carry their personal baggage and tents.

The Lord has preserved me in many ways. I want to walk in the fear and love of God, seeking His glory in all things for Christ's sake.

. . . . . .

June 5th.—I had only an hour's sleep during the night. The troops under Sir De Lacy Evans were out marching from four o'clock till nine this morning. On my return I visited my sick, and then breakfasted.

We have to be most watchful and anxious to know and to do our Father's will. Mr.——, chaplain, was remarking to me the very excited state of the soldier's minds, and how difficult it was for them to receive a good word under such circumstances.

The Turks are almost inaccessible. A medical missionary would be the best channel of communicating the glad tidings of the Gospel to these people.

Dr. —— and I met together for reading and prayer. We read the 6th chapter of John. The chaplain and I have arranged to hold a prayer meeting, the Lord permitting, on Wednesday next, at seven o'clock, P.M. We have to stand fast in the faith, to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, counting *all things loss* for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord.

Here I am more and more driven to lean on the strong arm of the Lord. We have to be *driven;*

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our rebellious hearts would lead us to destruction, but the Lord is greater, and "will not suffer His people to be tempted above that they are able."

The thermometer is 100 degrees in my tent. We have to pay enormously for everything beyond the rations. An army is to be sent to Greece.

LETTER XIX.

"Blessed are those servants whom the Lord, when He cometh, shall find watching."—LUKE, xii. 37.

Scutari, June 6, 1854.

I was present at the British and Foreign Bible Society Meeting to-day. The chair was occupied by the American Ambassador, who spoke at some length. The meeting was numerously attended; the Secretary read an interesting and satisfactory report, and then followed several speeches.

8th.—Our prayer-meeting this evening, in the hospital, was attended by only a few of the soldiers.

9th.—Vessels continually arrive, laden with stores and munitions of war, from England and France.

There is great excitement here, death seems to be lightly talked of. I feel the need of retirement.

An officer called at the door of my tent; I said to him, "Be watchful, for the world is in open rebellion." He replied, "Be charitable." This led me

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to tell him, "It is not charity to hide the remedy from one who has a mortal disease; it is not charity to allow a man to fall into everlasting ruin without telling him the only way for his escape." His reply then was, "Quite right; I am obliged to you."

"Let worldly minds the world pursue,
It has no charms for me;
Once I admired its trifles too,
But grace has set me free."

10th.—I had a long conversation with Dr. —— on the subject of repentance. People commonly think that a man must *do* something to be saved. As long as a man is so self-deceived, he is trusting to himself and not to Christ. Sorrow cannot bring a man to Christ; the simple testimony is, "He that believeth shall be saved." "This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent." Christ gives repentance. God says, "My salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished." "Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away."—Isaiah, li.

LETTER XX.

"Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."—Matt. xxviii. 20.

"For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not, I will help thee."—Isaiah, xli. 13.

Camp, Scutari, June 10, 1854.

It is always a happy moment when I find myself

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with you in spirit, meditating on the finished work of Christ.

"Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof.

"Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generation following.

"For this God is our God for ever and ever. He will be our guide, even unto death."—Psalm xlviii. 12–14.

We have "boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil; that is to say, His flesh."—Hebrews, x. 19, 20.

The breezes from the Bosphorus are most refreshing, and render the temperature somewhat agreeable during the summer months.

11th.—The Lord's Day. I had a little meeting in my tent, read the 24th chapter of Luke, had prayer, and then repeated the hymn, "There is a fountain filled with blood."

Evening.—The chaplain being unable to attend the prayer-meeting, he sent me word to conduct it. Ten soldiers were present. I brought before them, as the Lord enabled me, the subject of justification by faith, as contained in the 5th chapter of Romans.

The country just now is most delightful; the hay is being cut down, and the fruit ripening. Surely

> "Every prospect pleases,
> And only man is vile."

The Greeks are bitterly opposed to the Turks, and every nation not professing the "Christian religion."

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The Greek system of religion differs from the Roman Catholic chiefly in this, that the Pope is not owned as its head. If men were in the habit of reading their Bibles more attentively, every human system would be found wanting, and nothing but God and His written Word would be exalted.

14th.—I have been kept most graciously from many trials. The Lord knows how to deliver, and He is a mighty deliverer. He keeps the feet of His saints, and those who put their trust in Him shall never be confounded, for He knows what His children are able to bear.

LETTER XXI.

"The Lord is thy keeper."—PSALM cxxi. 5.

Scutari, June 15, 1854.

We have received orders to be ready to embark for Varna at the shortest notice.

My servant asked me this evening to get him a prayer-book. I suggested a Testament. He said either would do. How often the one is put for the other by the ignorant! It has been on my mind to take an occasion of speaking to him on the truth. See the way in which the Lord has brought it about. This man also said to me, "I would like to know much of the Scriptures. At one time I was well to do in the world." I gave him a small tract, "The Deluge."

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16th.—I called on the dear brethren at Constantinople; it was my farewell visit. We read and prayed together. I was to have met them to-morrow to commemorate the death of our Lord, but on my return home this evening, orders were given that the horses are to be embarked at ten o'clock in the morning, and the men at twelve, noon. Remember our Lord's words, "Where I am, there shall also my servant be."

LETTER XXII.

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me."—JOHN, xiv. 6.

On board the steamer —— at Scutari, June 18, 1854.

We have to be thankful that the Lord is leading us by ways we know not.

19th.—We are now on our way to Varna. Yesterday, when searching for a book in the library of this vessel, one of the stewards said to me, "These books are all religious; you will find *the others* on the other side." The thought came into my mind that the tendency of the natural man is opposed to God. I replied "The religious books are the kind I want," and took up "Wesley's Life," by Watson.

I had a long conversation with Captain —— on the truth. You know how difficult it is to get men to speak upon the fundamental doctrine, that a man must be taught of God, for "the wisdom of the world is foolishness with God." It was just 12 o'clock when we anchored in Varna Bay. There

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are numerous ships of war here, English, French, and Turkish, and there is a large encampment on the high hills beyond the town. The sail up the Bosphorus is very grand; it is sixteen miles long, and about one mile and a-half wide at Constantinople, and rather wider at the mouth of the Black Sea. The houses are built close to the water's edge, with fine gardens and variegated trees extending up the undulating hills. The coast all along from the Bosphorus to Varna is rather low, partly wooded, and partly cultivated, and presenting a pretty aspect.

LETTER XXIII.

"The Lord reigneth."

Camp at Varna, June 20th, 1854.

How much you are in all my thoughts; the Lord be ever praised for keeping you in my happy remembrance. There is a very fine beach along the head of Varna bay, beyond which is an extensive lake. The town of Varna is, I think, finer than that of Gallipoli, though indeed it is poor enough, provisions, &c., being scarce. We landed yesterday afternoon; the disembarkation was long and tedious, and not properly conducted, so that in the confusion of tent-pitching, &c., every one seemed to be the common owner of what the hand could reach. Thank God, no accident has occurred through all the adventures so far. The encampment consists

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of the 1st and 2nd Divisions of the army, with some French. The Light Division is about nine miles off, and when the Commissariat is ready that Division will move on, then the 1st, and so on. The Division at Gallipoli is to replace us here in about five days. I called upon Mr. H—— for a few minutes; he was, I am rejoiced to say, engaged in reading his Bible. How precious the Word of Life in this dark, dreary place! The arrangements are very bad; no one appears to know anything at times; orders and counter-orders are of frequent occurrence.

I had a most delightful ride this afternoon in company with one of the officers: we passed through mountain fields of vineyards, interspersed with numerous cherry-trees, walnuts, &c. The French are encamped on the top of this mountain range, and the British on the plain beneath, close to the town of Varna. There are evidences that this plain has been covered by the sea at some remote period. Water is scarce—it can only be obtained about 300 yards from the camp. When riding through the vineyard, two Turkish soldiers, armed, accosted me; they begged I would interfere in preventing the soldiers from cutting down the fruit-trees; they pointed out several which the English had cut down, some for the purpose of getting the fruit, and others for firewood. It went to my heart to witness the great loss these poor people must have sustained from such wantonness. The grand view of the sea in the distance, the numerous ships in harbour, and the camp close by, formed a splendid panoramic scene. The expressions of the men are sometimes shocking, not caring what becomes of their clothes, &c., "as they

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will outlast themselves." I expect to see awful scenes, but am, through the Lord's wondrous grace, supported in having no fear of the future.

21st. — I had a long ride this afternoon along the east part of the mountain, which I visited yesterday. The country is very superior, indeed, and the crops flourishing.

22nd. — The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. Our loving Lord knew how weak we are, and how sinful, when He said to His disciples, "forsake all and follow Me." Deny yourselves, take up the cross, and *follow Me*. O, we want this continual following of the Lord Jesus, for peace, joy, and righteousness!

Evening.—Lord Raglan has arrived. A General Hospital is opened at this station. The chaplains are much disappointed that their time hangs heavy. The soldier servants at first allowed them have been removed, and civil servants are not easily obtained. I find the excitement, which seems unavoidable, very trying to myself. Private —— has just called to tell me he has had a meeting of a few soldiers in a field—this is happy and encouraging; the Lord give a blessing to it, and enable them to meet again in the name of Jesus. Farewell.

LETTER XXIV.

"Thou art my hiding place; Thou shalt preserve me from trouble; Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance."—PSALM xxxii. 7.

Camp at Varna, June 23rd, 1854.

This afternoon, when with Mr. H——, we were

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called to the General's tent, the English mail having arrived. Your letter was put into my hands. The words on the inside of the envelope, "The peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus," just met our wants at the time, for we had been saying, that in the hour of danger it is the Christian only who has peace. I went with you into every thought you expressed of the place alluded to reminding you of past times, and of the great contrast to the present. I can well understand this, and it made me sad, too, though my heart was full of joy and thankfulness. Every day I think I am turning more away from the world, hating it, regarding all its pomps and vanities as a "vain show." The grief I have is, that I cannot retire to some spot, and enjoy my Lord Jesus in the sweetness of being alone with Him. For the last two days I have ridden out alone, which I enjoyed very particularly, because I was *alone*, and yet "not alone," for Jesus was with me, and will not leave me, but be with me, even unto the end of the world.

24th.—I have just returned from town; there is now very heavy thunder and rain. A soldier of the 41st Regiment was buried this morning: it was sorrowful to hear the band playing a merry tune on returning from the funeral.

25th. — The Lord's Day. A most happy day, thank the Lord. I enjoy this day greatly, as there is some soberness observed, even by almost every one, at one time or other; but it is outward — of the flesh, and not of the Spirit. I visited dear Mr. ——, who had been preaching at Lord Rag-

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lan's. We looked over many passages of God's Word, and with profit, I trust. "The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force" (Matthew, xi. 12), formed one subject of conversation. He told me Evans' Sermons are very excellent. Mr. Evans was an Independent minister, and has entered into rest.

This evening of the Lord's Day my heart has been filled with joy by the receipt of your letter of the 11th, and I do trust, with intelligent thankfulness to my God, who supplieth all my need. The Lord has been most mindful of you and our child, in having done all things for the comfort of you both, and in having so graciously brought you over so long a journey. It gives me great confidence to find our ever gracious God has given you strength to do wondrous things. Surely we may exclaim, "The Lord is *our* helper;" He is full of pity and of tender mercy.

We heard to-day the Turks defeated the Russians at Silistria, and that the enemy retired beyond the Danube. This was communicated to the troops on parade by the General. The regular Turkish soldier is a formidable opponent, but the officers are very miserable. About 20,000 French are encamped in our neighbourhood.

26th.—The 118th Psalm was very precious this morning; the quickened soul enjoys a song of praise betimes in the morning. "Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord." All power to praise, all faith, all love, all wisdom, and every good and perfect gift cometh down from our God in Christ, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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I am constantly reminded of this, that the world by wisdom knows nothing of God. If a man says he knows God, and is ignorant of Him as a covenant-God for man's salvation through the blood of His dear Son, he is still in a state of nature, still dead in trespasses and sins. He may speak of God as an Almighty Being, in reviewing the starry firmament, or other wonders of the creation, but such wisdom is foolishness to the Christian taught by God's Spirit to cry "Abba, Father," who carries intelligence of God his Saviour into every department of research, whether astronomical, animal, or vegetable.

The natural man consoles himself with the miserable comfort that God, who created him, will be gracious in not denying him the kingdom of heaven, justifying himself, perhaps, in having led a good life, and in never having committed what may be termed a serious sin. This reminds one of that awful passage, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name, and done many wonderful works," but depart from me; *I know you not.* When man is not in Christ before God, he is a thief and a robber; he refuses to enter in by the Door himself, and tries to hinder others; the man of the world who attempts to serve God and mammon stands on a sandy foundation. Tell those with whom you meet, who are trying to justify themselves before God, to believe what God has said of His Son, that he who believeth not, shall surely perish. If men believed God's record of His Son (1 John, v. 12) they would fly without delay from the city of destruction; they would hurry off, with nothing of this world, and come

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to Christ as *sinners*, poor, wretched, blind, and naked. O, that we may have more faith, more love, more of that blessed faith which enables one to trust in the Lord at all times.

During the last few days I have been thinking of our responsibility to bring up our child "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord;" everything set before his growing intellect should have the tendency of leading him to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Hold him in Christ; though hard it may seem to you, it is not too hard for the Lord.

How kind of all our dear friends to be remembering me. "I am full." That is a difficult lesson for us to learn, "I can *do* all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," and "without Me ye can do nothing." As the Christian grows, he takes a greater hold of Christ, for, "as thy day so shall thy strength be;" he becomes built up in Him, his roots enter, his branches enlarge, his leaves are numerous, more green, more healthy, and his fruit is good, and manifest; let our light so shine before men.

27th.—The Gallipoli Division is very shortly expected to arrive here, and the artillery are pouring in daily. The Lord's mercies are countless towards us; it is He who bringeth low and lifteth up. I trust the Lord will give you wisdom and power in the Holy Ghost to set the truth before ——. May she say, "it is good for me to have been here."

You will be rejoiced to hear Private —— informed me of his having had on last Lord's Day two meetings in the country. I am so circumstanced now I

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cannot do anything except among the officers, and only occasionally among the men.

This is the 28th, and I feel most thankful to the Lord for permitting me to tell you of His goodness in keeping me in health and strength. Once we were blind, but now we see, God having brought us out of darkness into the marvellous light of the Gospel of His dear Son. He is showing us more and more of His wondrous grace, love, and mercy every day. May we be intelligent to feel His graciously outstretched hand, and have faith to take abundantly of the numberless gifts treasured up for His believing people in Christ. We can say with good reason we have found our God in Christ a very tender Father, full of pity, full of love, and full of great forbearance. O, if we had one atom of perfect love, what a principle would form the basis of every thought and action. I like to take any little occurrence that my poor dark heart can discern of God's love in my own circumstances, and to show it to you for your joy and strength. It does me good to acquaint you of the Lord's dealings, and how full of joy your heart will be to hear of even my feeble faith. Every Christian indeed should feel he is only a learner in the school of Christ; he should be a man of real growth, "growing in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Austria has a large army on the frontier, for what purpose it is difficult to say; a great moral effect, however, has been produced by the defeat of the Russians at Silistria.

29th.—It would not be wise to send any parcel to me at present; our movements are very uncertain,

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and indeed it may never reach. Every pound additional weight is most inconvenient to carry. What pilgrims we are! O, if the Christian in every country lived as though he had no possessions in this vale of sorrow, and instead of perplexing his mind how best to add house to house, and land to land, were to employ a like diligence how best to give glory to God in honouring the sweet name of Jesus. Alas! religion is too commonly misstated, in supposing it to consist in an outward appearance, and not from the principle of the mind of Jesus dwelling in the newborn soul! That is solemn; "man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." O, if we were walking so happily as we used to be under the power of the Holy Spirit at home once again! I know and feel persuaded God will not keep us one moment longer away from each other than is good for us; and may our meeting be to His glory, for Christ's sake. Amen.

The Lord gives grace to sustain His people, and with the temptation finds a way for their escape; so *all things work together* for good to them that love God, who are the called according to His purpose. I feel thankful for the Lord's goodness and mercy in supplying all your need, and above all, giving you the Bread of Heaven to feed on, and water from the wells of salvation to keep you in the midst of a parched desert. The Lord bless you, the Lord sustain you, and the Lord keep you in perfect peace. Glory be to Thee Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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LETTER XXV.

"The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want."—PSALM xxiii. 1.

Camp at Varna, June 29th, 1854.

I had the happy privilege of despatching a bulky letter to you this morning. I had forgotten to mention that your letter, directed to Malta, came to hand; it was indeed very precious and very interesting—one that did my heart real good. Our Lord seems to be hiding no good thing from us; His grace and His love are more than our feeble unbelieving hearts can at all understand. We may well remember that petition which occurred in the order of our reading this day, "Open Thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law." I am, like yourself, very impatient sometimes; the Lord make us patient, that patience may have her perfect work, to the honour and glory of that God who keepeth us as the apple of His eye.

30th.—The Lord has been very gracious and very mindful of me this month, during which I have had the privilege of receiving many comforting letters from you. The First Division goes on to-morrow at four o'clock, A.M., and will halt nine miles distant; the Light Division advances twenty miles. I have received a lamentable account of the Turkish hospital at Shumla.

Captain Butler, who conducted the defence of

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Silistria, has died from his wounds. He was to have been promoted for his able exertions in carrying on the siege, and high mention of his ability has been made by Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge. But the poor man's glory is at an end, so far as this world can bestow on him.

An officer out riding the other day was fired at by the Bashi-Bazouks, and we are in consequence to appear in uniform, and wear swords, when going beyond the precincts of the camp. An order has also been issued forbidding the men cutting down the fruit-trees, &c. I had a pleasant ride along the coast to the north of Varna, through vineyards, &c. The land certainly is very fine, and would yield abundantly if well cultivated. Mr. —— finds he has made a mistake in coming out. I reminded him of that comforting verse, "heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." We both find the Word of God most sustaining; though I cannot but confess one's spiritual advancement is positively marred by the worldly pressure to which we are subject; yet the Lord's grace *is* sufficient. I believe our real work will soon begin. The Russians have formed on the left bank of the Danube, and challenge the allied forces to attack them. We shall, no doubt, have hard and awful work the moment the first shot is fired. There is great fraternizing between the English and French soldiers. It is quite idle to surmise the probable issue of this great struggle. May the Lord alone be glorified, for His name's sake. Amen.

July 1st.—Another month has passed, and day by day we are assured of our Lord's presence, and His

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sustaining grace in hours of darkness and trial. "I sat down under His shadow with great delight, and His fruit was sweet to my taste."—Song, ii. 3. The 4th verse is equally precious—"He brought me into His banqueting-house, and His banner over me was love." The Frenchwomen who accompany their troops dress like the soldiers, with a broad stripe down the sides of their trowsers, and rows of buttons on the breast of the cloth jacket. They wear a straw hat, and I believe carry arms.

Lieutenant —— speaks very intelligently on passages of Scripture.

The weather just now is hot; riding or walking on the public roads is most disagreeable from the density of the dust. Fancy the air was so impregnated with it this afternoon, that a friend of mine nearly lost his way returning from the town to the camp.

One of the streets in Varna is arched over with vines: it has a pretty appearance, and will be particularly so further on in the season. The places of worship are more like the country churches of olden time: they are not at all so handsome, however. The mode of conveyance for ordinary travellers is on horseback, though families may travel in hired waggons, drawn by bullocks. Merchandize is generally drawn by buffaloes.

Odessa is considered the Liverpool of Russia, and next to Moscow in grandeur. I do not vouch for the correctness of this description of it.

2nd.—Lord's Day. We move, God willing, at four, A.M., to-morrow. I am in full trust of the Lord that He will keep us in safety against every storm. "Fear not, I am with thee."

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LETTER XXVI.

"Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel: . . . cause Thy face to shine, and we shall be saved."—PSALM lxxx. 1 and 3.

Camp at Carrigolle, July 3rd, 1854.

I concluded my last letter rather abruptly—I was much pressed for time at the moment. We had a pleasant march through a park-like country. Six regiments of infantry, with artillery, are now encamped over an immense plain, surrounded with thick wood. We are without cavalry, and Lord Cardigan is away reconnoitering the movements of the Russians.

The thermometer is between 90° and 100°. We were no sooner under canvas than heavy rain, with thunder, set in. The Lake of Devna is about two miles distant to the south of our encampment.

It is a very blessed thing when the poor pilgrim is able to read his own case in the Word of God, and take comfort from what is written as the message of a covenant-Jehovah to allay the fears and apprehensions of the weary traveller, inspiring him with confidence to go forward. For "I will instruct thee, and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." This God is our God *for ever and ever, He will be our guide even unto death.* That passage which occurred in the reading for this morning seemed also to suit my own

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case. The words I allude to are in the 43rd verse of the 119th Psalm, "Take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for I have hoped in thy judgments."

4th.—Late last evening the order to march this morning was cancelled. We left seven sick in the General Hospital at Varna. There are now only four in the hospital marquee, and these are obliged to lie on the ground, each having but one blanket. I visited the village of Carrigolle yesterday, which is made up of an irregular cluster of houses, occupied by tillers of the land. The Bulgarian children are very fine and healthy-looking, with plump cheeks and cheerful countenances.

The demoralization of the full-grown Turk may be accounted for by the heathenish laws of the country, which, I understand, can be broken at the will of the Sultan's officers.

I was in happy prayer this morning; I seemed to get what I was asking. May it be true; may the petitions be from Himself. He leads us, and puts the very words He would have us utter on our hearts;—this is prayer. One requires strong faith in asking for things which seem impossible to be accomplished, but is "*anything* too hard for the Lord."

5th.—By your letter, received this morning, I am thankful, through the grace of our Lord, you have been enabled to lay hold on the Lord as your portion. Surely, then, your "cup runneth over." Under the circumstances of your present trial, or in any, indeed, the natural man can bring you no real comfort. "The carnal mind is enmity against God."

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We are seen *only* in Christ, by whom we have access to God. We have to do with One who does not alter, who has a heart of sympathy and love, and blessed be His name for ever. We all expect too much from man; there is, indeed, a natural clinging to an arm of flesh, whereas we are told "cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils." I am fully persuaded children of God often and often walk by sight, when it is their happy privilege, ay, their boasted privilege, to walk by faith. There is something so withering and restless in the heart of that child of God, who is looking to second causes for comfort, in the dark stages of his journey, rather than at once sheltering himself under the shadow of Christ Himself. Oh! may you and I manifest that our trust is in our covenant-Jehovah, the great "I AM," that in our heavenly Father is our strength and our confidence in every trial. We have peace and joy, which the world cannot give, at the feet of Jesus; our burdens and our heavy-laden hearts He bears. We want none but Christ, either as Friend or Counsellor; none but our Elder-Brother, the Lord Jesus Himself. We have in Him one who can be touched with our infirmities; one who was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin; in Him we have all redemption, all wisdom, all righteousness. An officer is going to Varna, and has promised to take this letter. I am anxious you should hear from me by every opportunity. Only be full of hope, full of faith, and may our God give you abundantly of both for Christ's sake.

I hear we are to march to-morrow, and the rumour is that we must soon appear at Silistria.

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The Lord save and preserve our Queen and country, for Christ's sake.

LETTER XXVII.

'Eat, O friends; drink, yea drink abundantly, O beloved."—Song, v. 1.

Camp at Carrigolle, July 5, 1854.

Lieutenant —— was with me; I had a chat with him on the assurance of a believer in Christ. May the Lord teach him Himself, and shew him plainly of the things of Christ, through the Holy Spirit.

We are to move to-morrow morning at half-past four o'clock. I wrote on my pack-saddle these words—"In God's dear Son we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins." I trust the Lord will graciously use His Word to His own glory in leading sinners to the Saviour, taking them from darkness to light, and translating them into the kingdom of His own dear Son.

You cannot imagine a more beautiful country than this part of Bulgaria, presenting as it does one extensive park; the air is very agreeable, from the refreshing breezes of the Black Sea.

6th.—We moved our encampment this morning, and are now nicely situated on high ground, not far from the Light Division, and can see the shipping in Varna Bay.

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We are close to a wood of low trees. I went out and gathered some flowers, which look so fresh and pretty: they are now attached to the pole of my tent. I cannot but think how lovely and fair the Garden of Eden must have been. O what sin has done! How abominable in God's sight! Let it not reign in our mortal bodies; rather let the Spirit of Christ be manifest in all our thoughts and doings, that we may be indeed *dead* to ourselves, *dead* to sin, *dead* to the world, and *alive* unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The chief subject that engaged my thoughts along the road to-day was, how *well* the Lord does all things.

We got up about three o'clock, and at four the tents were struck, and the baggage packed on the animals. The sight was interesting.

"O God! our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guide while troubles last,
And our eternal home."

Let us think of this verse, and be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. The following, too, is very uplifting:—

"What Thou shalt to-day provide,
Let me as a child receive;
What to-morrow may betide,
Calmly to Thy wisdom leave:
'Tis enough that Thou wilt care—
Why should I the burden bear?"

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Let us cast our care on Him, who careth for us; let us come to Christ for peace. He says—"Him that cometh unto Me, I will in nowise cast out." He never sends empty away. Lord, we come empty, that we may be filled; we come weak, that we may be strong.

Evening.—After having had a search for eggs, milk, &c., at a neighbouring village, your *dear* letter of the 20th came to hand. Every day the Lord is filling my heart with the sweetest assurance of your being in perfect safety.

7th.—How abundantly the Lord supplies me with every needed comfort. . . . "Ever watchful is His care." The law tells the guilty—"Be sure your sin will find you out." Well did Job exclaim—"*Wherefore* I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." I believe we must all feel the force of that passage. I believe many in the present day are wrapt up in much that is Pharasaical. Man has a strong desire to justify himself by the deeds of the law. Sooner or later the believer is brought to say—"By the law I am condemned; but in Christ I am made alive."

With reference to the subject of "Church and membership," I can only comprehend from Scripture "Christ and His Church," which is a mystery—mystery, why God should have sent His Son to die for man's redemption; a great mystery, indeed, that God was manifest in the flesh; that Christ should take sinners into such union with Himself. "For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones" (Eph. v. 30, &c.). I do believe that God will gather His elect from the four corners of the earth;

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that His Church is gathered out from among every kindred, and nation, and people, and tongue, by His own sovereign grace; and He will have a witness for Christ in all places of the earth.

The report is, that as the Russians have retreated from Silistria, we shall probably be sent to the Crimea, which is, I hear, a most beautiful country. Figs, oranges, and all kinds of fruit grow there luxuriantly.

8th.—If people claim apostolic succession, surely the Romish priests are entitled to it; but we have not any evidence that there are successors, except by man's appointment. Paul said, "I received it not of man." Our Blessed Lord does appoint men to preach the Gospel; but, alas! many who *press* into the ministry, and claim the name of "successor," too commonly "are the enemies of the cross of Christ."

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LETTER XXVIII.

"I am the light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."—JOHN, viii. 12.

Camp at Yuseck Ova, July 9, 1854.

I trust this Lord's Day you have the happy privilege of meeting with those who love the Lord Jesus; that your soul is being fed in His Word. The Shepherd goes before His sheep, and they *follow* Him.

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This is the good Shepherd. The type of our Lord Jesus, as the "chief Shepherd," is often brought before me in this country; and one learns something here, too, of how His faithful servants help His sheep, keeping them in the way, and pointing them to Christ.

I had a long talk with Major —— this evening, and took the occasion to tell him of Jesus as the Saviour, and that no man cometh unto the Father but by Him.

The heat this morning was most intense and oppressive. The evenings become cool, and the moment the sun sets, the dew falls heavily.

There are numerous singular insects in this country; very few poisonous snakes; the wild flowers are various and beautiful.

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This war will, of course, keep me out here; and I could not think of leaving, so long as my services are required, especially under the calamities of actual warfare. I believe my post is with the sick and wounded. We have to wait patiently on the Lord, and abide His time for the fulfilment of His purposes, in having permitted our separation. I do trust with you, ——, that when we are brought together—the Lord granting our desires and hastening the time—we may be better prepared, through this trial, to manifest the spirit of Christ for the rest of our days. We must ever remember we have still the two natures; may the Lord enable us to help each other, and to bear each other's infirmities. . . . I fear I think too little of sin in others, and too little of it also in my own deceitful heart. This I know, sin harrows

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my very heart sometimes. I am sure it is Satan, at an unguarded moment, drawing me away from thinking of Christ; for when I am in the joy of my blessed Lord Jesus, I am very happy, and all sin seems far removed, and my conscience clear before God. However, I feel I can *freely* go before the Throne of Grace, with the fullest confidence that the Lord Jesus has consecrated the new and living way for me, and for all who are cleansed by His precious blood-shedding, to enter into the Holiest. May you, ——, grow in the knowledge and in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

11th.—I often felt I could not endure being away from you in this way; but wondrously have we been sustained. The Lord *alone* could and did sustain us. I stand amazed, when I think of your position. The Lord knows how I long to be with you; He knows the groanings of my heart, and He will bring us soon together, for His name's sake. . . . . Having just read the eleventh chapter of Mark, the Lord put it strongly on my mind to tell you of His goodness and grace in causing me to open out my heart in prayer, that He would mercifully bring us together. The twenty-second, twenty-third, and twenty-fourth verses of the same chapter shewed me I just wanted faith to believe that He would do so. By this I was encouraged to come boldly to our ever-gracious Father and God.

12th.—A most charming day. When darkness comes, we get dull; but when all seems fair and lovely, we are cheered. O how bright must be the courts of our God—the New Jerusalem—where no tear can enter, no pain, no sorrow, no sin! O let us

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rejoice that this is our portion; that we have passed from death unto life, and know that there is *now* no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus. In the heavenly city we shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on us or any heat; nor shall we need the light of the sun, or of the moon, "for the Lamb is the light thereof." All the scorchings of the sun's rays now—rain, snow, summer, and winter—tell us sin entered the world, and death by sin. Alas! how few know that *life eternal* came by Jesus Christ. *Whosoever* will, let him come and take the water of life freely.

I have read some of the speeches recently delivered in the House of Commons, on the subject of allowing payment to clergymen for attending convicts. They showed much of man's ignorance on the subject of religion. What can man know of God till he knows Him as his God and Father in the precious Jesus? Go where we will through this sinful world, we find man's heart naturally opposed to the truth as it is in Jesus, and opposed, too, to those who speak of God's love in Christ, and of God's plan of salvation through the blood of the everlasting covenant.

The man whose sins are unpardoned, an unbeliever, has nothing to do with arguments on God's truth: he is first to believe on the Lord Jesus, and be saved. I do believe, unless we *bear* on this subject in our conversations with the worldly, we deny Him who is the way, the truth, and the life. You know as well as I do how difficult this is. Therefore, wherever we go, let us hold up the banner of truth, and confess Christ and Him crucified. May we

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sound the Gospel trumpet clearly and unerringly. What a strong foundation is laid by Christ Jesus! He that buildeth thereon shall never be confounded, shall never be shaken, but shall stand for ever.

Time rolls on, ten years more will soon pass over, and still stranger things may happen—our blessed Lord may come, for "He will not tarry," to take His waiting people home. The Christian need never "make haste," though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; but fiery indignation awaits the ungodly. "O! turn ye, turn ye, why will ye die!"

LETTER XXIX.

"The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand."—PSALM cxxi. 5.

Camp at Yuseck Ova, July 14, 1854.

You say the Lord gives me words to meet your present trying position. Truly our God is love, the God of all comfort and consolation. The sweet name of Jesus is as ointment poured forth. We begin at the cross, and we end at the cross. Mary sat at the feet of Jesus; there, too, is our happy place. When we abide in Christ, and His words abide in us, we have a rod and staff to lean on which the world knows nothing of, because these things are freely given us of God, and are hid from the wise and prudent, that the excellency of the power be of

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God and not of us. Now, my ——, we have to be strong in this grace—we have to fear no evil. Many a child of God has gone on doubting and doubting till Satan at last brings him into great disquietude. Let us not put our trust in princes, nor in any man, for laid in the balance they are altogether lighter than vanity. The Israelites of old desired a king; the Lord, in promising them one, entered into what his very character would be. Still they wished to have this king, who would take from them all liberty, and bring them up as his servants. The Lord said, "They rejected Me that I should not reign over them."—1 Samuel, viii.

When we are weary and heavy laden we are told to come to Christ, that we may find peace and rest to our souls, and not to trust in any child of man; we shall then "never be confounded." We want an intelligent, loving trust, patiently waiting on the Lord continuously.

Your dear ——, who knows Him who "spake as never man spake," sends me word of her earnest prayer, that I may grow in the grace of our Lord Jesus *to the end!* Oh! may I, and may you, hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering—faith in Jesus, which makes wise the simple, brings down the high looks of the proud, crumbles man to the dust, and shows that it is Jesus who raiseth the beggar from the dunghill, and makes him sit with princes.

I visited Mr. —— (chaplain). He is one of those who likes to take man by degrees to God—"from nature to nature's God." To this I objected. Free salvation for the sinner through the one offering once

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offered, he does not clearly understand. He believes it after a manner, but calls it "a dangerous doctrine," lest man should regard sin too lightly. I told him the true child of God hates sin, turns away from it. The Epistle to the Romans answers every objection of this sort. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid! How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"

Private —— came to tell me his weekly meetings continue very happily; that eight or nine attend them. I heartily rejoiced with him, and felt uneasy I was not alike engaged in this great work.

Evening.—Lord's Day. An old acquaintance visited me this afternoon. I felt restless till I had an opportunity of speaking to him of the Saviour. It easily came about when he mentioned he had been at church at 6 o'clock in the morning, and said he heard a good sermon on swearing. Well, well; how curiously the world talks. I told him the Gospel—the good, happy tidings of the sinner's acceptance with God through the blood of Christ. "Christ died for sinners." Man has nothing to do with the work of salvation; Christ came to do His Father's will, and performed the work. "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear Him."

About 300 of the soldiers were ordered to scour the adjoining wood in search of country robbers, who had stolen some children from a neighbouring village, with the object of extorting money from their parents. It is quite a mistake that our division is supplied with porter, tea, and other luxuries. Peo-

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ple at home fancy we are living right well. I feel, however, satisfied with the provisions we get.

17th.—We have not to be looking back, but keeping our eyes *right on*, beholding our Jesus, our Advocate with the Father.

18th.—I know not the plans for carrying out the operations of the war; everything is kept in profound secret.

No doubt the Jesuits will be well received; no mob will handle them roughly. The natural man rebels against the truth of God, and tries to upset it. Oh! how every man by nature is opposed to God; but the soul quickened by God is with God, no longer against Him. This turning or change of mind is, I believe, "repentance."

LETTER XXX.

"Rejoice in the Lord alway; and again I say rejoice."

Camp at Yuseck Ova, June 23, 1854.

The prince of this world has great power in the present day—he has a great army on his side. Yet one day, when the key-stone of the arch of his fabric is taken out, the ruin and confusion will be terrible.

We are under orders to march to-morrow, but expect to have them counter-ordered.

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LETTER XXXI.

"But my God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen."—PHIL. iv. 19 20.

Camp at Yuseck Ova, July 26, 1854.

I had to ride to Varna and back, a distance of about 40 miles.

I was happy in having received a letter from Captain ——, introducing one of the Scripture-Readers in connection with the Soldiers' Friend Society. The chaplains, he informed me, are opposing this movement, and will not allow the Society's agents to work among the men. Cholera has appeared at Constantinople and Varna. There were twelve fatal cases yesterday in the Light Division; a few have also occurred in the 1st and 3rd Divisions. I wish you to know the real facts of every occurrence, for the published accounts may be exaggerated.

27th.—Your precious letter of the 11th instant has greatly refreshed my weary spirit. How strong our blessed Lord Jesus is when He manifests Himself to His feeble lambs; when he comes to their help, and leads them by ways they know not! We want calmness, a quiet spirit, with the full assurance that the Lord will accomplish all things for us. He can remove impossibilities, and lay low the greatest mountain of difficulty.

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28th.—The texts have met us day by day with great refreshment in this desert land.

I am thankful there is no appearance of cholera among my men. May the Lord keep us from this violent scourge. Many have warlike looks and warlike minds till they experience the "ups and downs" of a camp life.

LETTER XXXII.

"Let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."—Heb. iv. 16.

Camp at Yuseck Ova, July 28, 1854.

I was apprehensive the letter I despatched this afternoon did not reach the General's tent in time for the post. Things here are generally done in confusion and hurry; and at times I feel, "how can I wait on the Lord in these things!" I can wait, and remain peaceful amidst the greatest darkness and bustle by *abiding in Jesus*, and, as Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me." We have our Lord's own words, "Without me ye can do nothing."

I have not seen the Scripture-Reader alluded to in a former letter since his sudden departure. I trust the Lord has work for him wherever he is, and that his ways are ordered of the Lord.

How difficult it is to get good Gospel tracts. I

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read one in the hospital that was left there for the use of the patients, which did not show clearly that the blood of Christ cleanseth from all sin, but pointed the reader to look within at his own sins, and darkness of heart. "Look unto *Me*, and be ye saved." May many be called of God to sound with distinctness the Gospel trumpet; for the time is short, and now is the day of salvation. God willeth none to perish, but that all, "*whosoever will*," should come to repentance, and believe the record He has given of His Son.

30th.—Lord's Day. Private —— called. Poor man!—*rich* indeed, for Jesus became poor, that His people might be rich. Came to tell me of the Lord's goodness in graciously permitting the assembling of the men to hear the Word of God.

We are in much need of being remembered by our brethren at home. We have a great increase of sick since yesterday. The weather is very changeable; at one time in the day the thermometer is at 70°, rises suddenly to 90°, and then as suddenly falls to 30°. This will give you an idea of the liability of the atmospheric temperature to change.

31st. — "Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." We moved our encampment this morning at very short notice. We can get under way in a very few minutes. The chief cause of delay generally is the want of transport; the Quartermaster-General's department is sadly inefficient in this respect.

August 1.—One month has passed, and another has opened. We can bless the Lord for His marvellous care of us through the valley of the wil-

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derness. A case of cholera occurred in the regiment this morning, which ended fatally in eleven hours! Colonel —— died this afternoon, and others are very ill with this complaint. I feel happy, because you know in whose hands I am. You wrote in your last letter, that wherever I would be—Varna or Crimea —"Jesus would be with me." This is faith; hold it fast; stand in this faith.

2nd.—I am strong and well to-day, thank God. Supplies can only be obtained from Varna, and at an enormous cost. Dr. —— has been very ill. On visiting him this morning, he said, "I have always seen you reading the Bible, I wish you would read a chapter for me." I read the 112th Psalm and 53rd of Isaiah.

Great preparations are now being made to embark the army for the Crimea at the shortest notice. My heart is full of the Lord's gracious dealings with me. "He that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst." "Whoso eateth My flesh and drinketh My blood hath eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

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LETTER XXXIII.

"What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."—JOHN, xiii. 7.

Camp at Yuseck Ova, Aug. 3, 1854.

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I am so thankful to find, by your letter of the

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16th ultimo, you intend to go to the sea-side. You remember we had been planning to be there together this season. When the Lord fixes the bounds of our habitation, we need not be dissatisfied, but receive with gratitude and praise whatever is His pleasure to order. In our blindness, we would like to fathom all our future. "In all things I am instructed, both to be full and to be hungry." Whether in sickness or in health, we ought to be learning of the Lord always, taking advantage of every occurrence to receive lessons in the school of Christ. The disciples did not wish to bring "little children" to Jesus; but our gracious Lord said, "Forbid them not." I fear there are Christian parents who attach importance to their prayers, their hopes, or their feelings, that God will one day bring their little ones to a knowledge of the truth. We have no work, or hope, or feeling on our part to depend on; the only one on whom we can depend is *Christ*. It is believing that Christ will do it; not our belief, or our faith, but *Christ*. Christ, therefore, is the foundation, Christ the superstructure, and Christ the top-stone. Man has nothing to do with God's work; no flesh shall glory in His presence. I believe many in the present day are "looking back" into their lives, seeing nothing but righteousness, and tracing out a fair map of a holy walk to make a fair show in the flesh. There is much, it is feared, "I am holier than thou" abroad in the world. Our Blessed Lord soon convicted those self-righteous men of their own sin, when they brought to Him the woman taken in adultery.

I had a favourable opportunity of saying a word

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in season to Captain ——, in allusion to his own feelings in a recent illness, when he found the pleasures of the world no support or comfort. "It is true," he said, "what gratified me before did not then." I told him the Christian has a never-failing source of joy, which no man, nor life, nor death, can take away; that he possesses it through the knowledge of his sins being washed away in the blood of Jesus; and that our sinfulness and vileness give us a claim to this Blessed Saviour.

6th.—I had this day three cases of cholera under my care; one poor man was stricken down as he was in the act of handing me a paper. Every one seems disappointed, and the cholera raging, no doubt gives some uneasiness, for I see the stoutest falling. There is evident anxiety in the minds of many; but alas! I do not see them flying to Christ.

8th.—We changed the encampment ground this morning, I trust in the Lord for good.

LETTER XXXIV.

"But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and for an helmet the hope of salvation." —1 Thess. v. 8.

Camp at Soombay, Aug. 9, 1854.

Various reports are in circulation that there is to be a general movement somewhere. The Guards have been most unhealthy; every regiment is sickly; cholera, fever, and dysentery being the principal dis-

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eases. We have to-day forty sick, and seven officers. I had the privilege of reading the tenth chapter of Hebrews for Dr. ——, which I found very profitable, and I trust he can say the same, to the glory of God.

10th. — More talk of an embarkation of troops soon. The men are employed daily practising field works. It is said Sebastopol is to be attacked. We would be glad of any change; to go before the walls of Sebastopol would, I believe, lighten most of us. I am trying to keep down the natural man. The Lord scatters those who delight in war.

I have just been looking on at the burning of the town of Varna. The full moon is over the bay, and the conflagration is frightful. The destruction of stores and provisions will cripple us.

11th.—Thank the Lord, my sick are doing very well; but our supplies are not liberal, owing to the want of transport.

I do indeed find the Lord a present help in trouble. After all the duties and disturbances of the day, I enjoy getting on my knees, and telling our covenant God and everlasting Father of my difficulties, calling on Him to make the rough places smooth, to straighten the crooked, and give me faith in His grace, with my eye fixed on Jesus.

12th.—We are likely to embark about the 25th instant. I feel the Lord is with me, and I go forward in His strength. Is not your confidence in Him who can support you, and will not fail so to do, come what will? The Lord is at hand, and He is not slack concerning His promises.

Cholera is declining, and the Lord has been most

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merciful towards the regiment. The Light Division lost between 150 and 200 men!

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LETTER XXXV.

"God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us."—PSALM lxvii. 1.

Camp at Soombay, Aug. 14, 1854.

We are expecting important despatches from England by the arrival of the next mail. It will be decided then whether we go to the Crimea or not. Dr. —— is out of my list. I trust he will return to give glory to God, like the Samaritan who was healed of his leprosy (Luke, xvii.). Alas! how many go with the nine.

16th.—"The time is short;" may we be as pilgrims waiting for the return of our Lord from heaven, and for our entrance with Him into that place which He is gone to prepare.

Your letter of the 1st has reached, enclosing a very nice note from Captain ——, truly characteristic of his knowledge of the Lord Jesus. This is a message for your comfort in the dark hour. We come poor, naked, wretched, and blind to Christ, and He puts on us the best robe, gives us eternal riches, and makes us kings and priests.

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LETTER XXXVI.

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."—ROMANS, xv. 13.

Camp at Soombay, Aug. 19, 1854.

I have invariably experienced that those who boast of strength in health are very much humbled on a sick bed. May the Lord take us out of this country before the rainy season; the roads being so soft, it will then be impossible for horses to travel.

We ought not to be careful about the things which concern us in this life. God has made a provision for us; He has in His wisdom and love appointed the bounds of our habitation, and we need not be planning for our *rest* here. No; let us look beyond ourselves to Christ, and Christ only. He is our rock; He will never leave or forsake us. Let our expectations, then, be only from the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

23rd.—I had a visit from Dr. —— and Captain H—— of the Rifle Brigade this afternoon. We had some happy conversation together.

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LETTER XXXVII.

"Man's goings are of the Lord; how can a man, then, understand his own way?"—PROV. xx. 24.

"His left hand is under my head, and His right hand doth embrace me."—SONG ii. 6.

Camp at Soombay, Aug. 24, 1854.

The Lord never disappoints; He never changes. Our poor wretched hearts are filled with doubts and fears, the very thing Satan likes to establish in order to darken our journey. Our precious Jesus tells us —"He that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John, viii. 12). That though our faith be tried with fire, it might be found unto praise, and honour, and glory, at the appearing of Jesus Christ. We have to glory, therefore, in our infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon us. The Lord's arm is strong, mighty, and all-powerful.

"Dear refuge of my weary soul,
On Thee, when sorrows rise—
On Thee, when waves of trouble roll,
My fainting hope relies.

25th.—When engaged in prayer last night at eleven o'clock, a most peculiar sensation came over me. I felt that some one was near my tent with a loaded

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musket in his hand for some evil purpose; my mind was so disturbed by it, that I got up off my knees, and looked out of the tent door to see if I could observe any person; but all was silent, and scarcely a light to be seen in the whole camp. This morning, however, it was correctly reported that a sentinel of the —— regiment shot himself during the night. It appears the man had been in a most depressed state of mind for some time past, and laboured under much mental aberration. This is so very remarkable, that I think it worth communicating to you, though melancholy is the association.

Private —— was quite overcome when I informed him his wife received two pounds from the Relief Committee. How numerous are our heavenly Father's benefits! Your very dear letter of the 6th instant has just reached. Surely our "lives are hid with Christ in God."

27th.—Any word of comfort is very precious and refreshing in this dark, benighted place. Mr. —— was lamenting that his letters have not been regularly coming to hand; that some of them, written at Scutari, were by mistake first sent to England! Our letters have reached each other most regularly, and we have had no cause of complaint. The Lord, indeed, is remembering us in every little thing, showing His pity, love, and care of us.

In the absence of a chaplain, an officer is ordered to read the "Burial Service" over the dead. Captain —— has just had to do it, and experienced difficulty in reconciling himself to the propriety of reading the service over *every one* indiscriminately. That part which refers to a certain hope of a resurrection

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in Christ to life eternal he did not know how he could say over one who, perhaps, he had never known in life. Farewell.

LETTER XXXVIII.

"Help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude."—2 CHRON. xiv. 11.

Camp at Soombay, August 28th, 1854.

The Lord in His mercy and goodness permits me to begin another letter. According to His loving kindness and compassion may He be graciously pleased to hasten the time of our coming together, that with one mouth we may praise and honour, in spirit and truth, our God and Father in Christ. Men, instead of believing in Him who came into the world to save sinners, settle themselves down into forms and ceremonies, which have a show of wisdom in will-worship, but cannot purge the conscience from dead works, to serve the living God; they rather content themselves with human doctrines and human teachings.

We hear it sometimes said, the world is improving, that the Gospel will enter into the hearts of all people, and there will be peace on earth. The dark days have not yet fully come. There are those who like to silence the small voice of conscience within their own hearts in declaring, "There is peace," when there is *no* peace; and there are those also

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who don't like to be called uncharitable, who tell people there is such a thing as universal salvation! Let God be true, but every man a liar.

I often think there is great meaning in that passage, the 36th verse of the 18th chapter of John, where our Lord says, "My kingdom is not of this world: if My kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews." I believe the words have special application to the saints of God, as to their leading a life of peace with all men.

It is indeed happy for the Christian, at the end of his or her pilgrimage, to be able to say, "*It is well,*" surely "*all is well*" in Jesus. The Lord is your keeper, and mine, and let us rejoice in Him *alway*.

4 P.M.—I have just been with Dr. Shegogg of the Connaught Rangers in his last moments; he sank under a severe attack of cholera while on the line of march to Varna. "Pray without ceasing." "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen."

LETTER XXXIX.

"I am the good Shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine."—John, x. 14.

Camp at Soombay, August 28th, 1854.

I had the happy privilege of despatching two letto you this afternoon. No less than forty officers

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have left this country for England on account of ill-health, and as many more are in the neighbourhood of the Bosphorus. The recent epidemic has committed great ravages amongst the men also.

29th. — We have been all this day expecting the order to march for Varna, from whence we are to embark for the Crimea. I feel I have much to praise the Lord for. He has *indeed* done *most wondrous things for me.* I am persuaded He will even more manifestly lead me through every future difficulty. With His own right arm He hath gotten Him the victory. I trust you see our Father's care and love of us in all our movements; He has been with us both all along thus far, and He will not now leave us, but accomplish the purposes which He hath purposed for us before the foundation of the world. His dealings are those of love, and though we sit in darkness, He is our light.

LETTER XL.

On board the Transport, ——, Varna Bay, Sept. 1, 1854.

We left Soombay the day before yesterday, and marched to within three miles of Varna, where we encamped for the night, and yesterday morning early we reached the place of embarkation. The invading army is to consist of 24,000 English, 24,000 French, and 12,000 Turks.

Be not discouraged should you not get a letter

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from me by every mail. May you have faith to "*abound in hope*" at this time, to the praise and glory of Him who washed us, and made us white in His own blood. I bid you—farewell.

LETTER XLI.

"The Lord will give strength unto His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace."—PSALM xxix. 2.

On board the Transport ——, Sept. 4th, 1854.

The Lord has given me a feast in your two letters of the 11th and 16th of last month, now received at the most required time. His ways are past finding out. He is a God infinite in wisdom and love.

5th.—We left Varna bay at 5 o'clock this morning, and in three hours after anchored in Baltschick bay, to wait the arrival of the other ships, when all proceed together to the shores of the Crimea. The Lord is my rock, my castle, my fortress, my deliverer, my high tower. "All my springs are in Thee." O, Lord, brighten this dark heart of mine; do lift it up to praise Thee, and to magnify Thy great and precious name, for the sake of Thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

Remember Asa's prayer in 2nd Book of Chronicles, 14th chapter and the 11th verse. We expect to go to sea immediately.

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LETTER XLII.

"I will never leave you." "I am the Lord." "I change not."

On board the Transport ——, Sept. 8th, 1854.

The Lord's loving kindness towards me is manifest. Taste and see that the Lord is good, for with Him is no variableness or shadow of turning. We have had no less than seven cases of cholera—five soldiers and two of the ship's crew—since we embarked at Varna.

9th.—We are all moving on in regular order. The weather is cool, and, thank God, no fresh cases of cholera; those attacked yesterday are doing well. Private —— said to me, "I know not what may happen to me in a day or two, and I will be thankful to Mrs. —— if she will send my wife sixteen shillings." It was most thoughtful of him to send all he possessed to his poor wife. I find my mind greatly excited, from the expectation of soon meeting the enemy, and the trying duties I shall have to perform. "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and this gives me assurance.

10th. — We came to an anchor yesterday at sunset, at the *rendezvous*, about fifty miles from Sebastopol. The varied colours of the setting sun presented the most brilliantly grand spectacle of the kind I had ever seen; the remarkable stillness of the mighty deep, and the peaceful aspect of the immense

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fleet, struck one for an instant with the idea, *is this an invading army prepared for battle?* Is not our God bringing about His own purposes? Is He not using every one of us to establish His Word, which shall not return unto Him *void?* A monster of iniquity, like Judas Iscariot, was made subservient to God in the carrying out of His own purposes, and so God uses every wicked man. Man is not to suppose that because he will not have Jesus to reign over him, that he is carrying on plans independent of God's. While the ungodly follow the evil imagination of their own hearts, it is the high and exalted privilege of the believer in Jesus to feel and to know his wondrous deliverance from sin, in that, where sin did abound, grace does much more abound. . . . . Look not to the past, but to the bright, happy future, for the Lord is our sun and shield.

11th, half-past 11 A.M.—We are weighing anchor. Yesterday, being Lord's day, a sermon was preached by the chaplain to the troops. His text was, "Whether ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." One of the officers, in referring to the sermon, gave me an opportunity to say, Remember the word "*Whatsoever*," that *whatsoever* ye do, *do it heartily as unto the Lord.* Grace and peace be with you. Farewell.

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LETTER XLIII.

"I am the good Shepherd."

On board the Transport ——, Sept. 12th, 1854.

It is now 10 A.M. We are to the west of Sebastopol, steaming on, and may soon expect to land. The Lord is keeping me in peace. Read the last verse of the 27th Psalm. It is now evening. We have been beating about between Sebastopol and Eupatoria, and are at anchor off the latter place. We have been in sight of land all the day. The thoughts of my heart, and the very circumstances of my position, draw me from the things of God. God I know is greater than my heart, who will not suffer me to be tempted above that I am able to bear, but will with the temptation find a way for my escape.

13th.—I will lift up my soul unto Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast sustained me. We have just received notice that an opportunity offers for sending letters to England. We are to land to-morrow, God willing.

LETTER XLIV.

Camp at Toozla, Crimea, September 17, 1854.

Your most precious letter of the 27th ultimo reached me late last evening, on my return from the

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ship, where I had gone to see the sick we left on board, and to procure provisions. At 10 A.M., on the 14th instant, we landed at Kalamita, without opposition, on a beautiful sandy beach, marched off at 5 P.M., and arrived at our bivouac just after dark. The rain that night came down in torrents; the men and officers had to lie down on the ground in the open air, each wrapped up in a blanket. The hospital stretchers formed an admirable little house for myself and three others. We were only able to carry, on landing, three days' rations (pork and biscuit), and a small bundle on the back or in the hand. This is a delightful country, and the climate very agreeable. Wood and water can only be obtained from a distance; straw is to be had in abundance, and we burn it for cooking. We are in want of medical men, and wonder the government has not sent out a larger staff. We have been able to get tents to shelter a few of the most delicate. I send these lines by a sergeant who is going to Scutari.

LETTER XLV.

Alma, Crimea, September 22, 1854.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name," for through His mercy, and His wonderful goodness, and kindness, and love, so manifest in the gift of His dear Son, I have been spared, with many others, to write an account of our first great engagement with the enemy at the Alma River.

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We left our encampment on the 19th instant, had a slight brush with the enemy on the evening of that day, when a few of the cavalry were wounded. On the following morning, the 20th, we moved off at six, A.M., joined the French, and with the Turks in the rere and centre, advanced towards the formidable position occupied by the Russians. We halted frequently, by way of resting the men, and to view the enemy's movements.

The battle commenced at twenty minutes past one o'clock, and was over in about three hours. Our infantry, as far as I could learn, were most foolishly advanced in the very face of the cannon's mouth. The moment our troops came pretty close, the Russians, having previously planned, set fire to the village.

The infantry defiled through the burning village, and immediately extended their ranks in an open field (where the —— Regiment suffered severely), then crossed the river and gained the heights, which were most strongly fortified by 100 pieces of cannon, and about 60,000 men.

As long as the firing lasted, the enemy's shot, and shell, and grape, came among us in all directions. One large cannon-shot came quite close to me, and passed over the heads of two of the bandsmen as they were conveying a wounded man to the rear.

We had no carts allowed for the conveyance of the sick and wounded, and in this respect the authorities are greatly to blame. Finding I could not advance with the regiment without leaving the wounded on the field, I seized two arrabas from the Commissariat, which I filled with the wounded, and then went on to the village. When I came to the

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open field, I found a ditch almost filled with my men. I attended to their wounds with Dr. ——, and then passed on over the field, dressing the wounded where I found them. Met Mr. ——, who had a dangerous wound in the left leg. I soon came upon more men, and Mr. ——, but none of them very seriously injured. Poor Mr. —— was drawn out of the river.

The Russians made an excellent retreat. I saw several of their dead, and many wounded, and had to remove one man's limb. I wonder the enemy gave way; but the iron courage of the English, and our brave ally, the French, was, on this occasion, most astonishing.

I picked up a Russian prayer-book, which I hope to show you. The Russian soldiers are robust-looking men, and well dressed. We have to cross another river, but expect no more fighting till we arrive before Sebastopol.

All the wounded were sent off to the ships to be conveyed to Scutari.

Human nature has been manifested in all its darkness and blackness in this frightful war; none but an eyewitness could picture to himself the disgusting appearance of the battle-field.

The paper I am writing on is Russian spoil.

LETTER XLVI.

Camp, Crimea, September 28, 1854.

I hear the post is to leave this afternoon, and

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thankful I am to the Lord for again permitting me to write to ——, to tell her of the Lord's care, love, and pity towards me in this dangerous position. Numbers of others are sick and weak, and the Lord keeps me up, providing for my daily need in giving me health and strength, and an abundance of food. I know I have great reason to be most thankful to our watchful God; yet murmuring thoughts fill this doubting, unbelieving heart.

After the action on the 20th, we halted on the ground deserted by the enemy. It is surprising they relinquished in so short a time a post possessing considerable natural advantages of defence. The British soldier is certainly cool and brave—no danger appears to discourage him when rightly led.

We left the Alma on the 23rd instant, and after a pleasant march, bivouacked for the night in the midst of a dense jungle or brushwood. During the night we were twice disturbed by the enemy. You can fancy the confusion when the "turn out" was given, till stillness was again restored by the sentinel's song "All's well."

On the following day we resumed our march, had to pass through a dense thicket of trees and underwood, which so broke up the ranks, that many of the men had difficulty in finding their way. The officers generally parted with any extra clothing they had on landing, and the men, too, were unable to carry many valuable articles of their necessaries, and in consequence are now suffering from the want of covering during the cold nights.

At eleven o'clock at night we took up our ground some miles beyond Mackenzie's Farm.

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On the 26th, we marched upon Balaklava, which soon fell into our hands.

We have been abundantly supplied with fruit and vegetables from the luxuriant gardens in this neighbourhood. It was pitiable to find the houses deserted, and the families driven out of their homes, through fear of the advancing army. Cholera still carries off the men. Dr. Mackenzie, a very intelligent surgeon, died of this malady a few days ago. He appeared so well just before his attack, that his sudden death is very alarming. The loss of his services will be very deeply felt. I heard, too, that his notes upon Army Medical Service in the field are calculated to effect ulterior good.

LETTER XLVII.

Camp before Sebastopol, Crimea, September 30th, 1854.

Your dear letters of the 6th and 11th instant are my joy and cause of rejoicing in the Lord. They truly keep me in perfect confidence of the Lord being our own watchful, gracious Father, who hath appointed the bounds of our habitations, and is now fulfilling His purposes of love towards us.

Our separation is not only for our own mutual good, but to redound to His glory. It is for us, ——, to perceive the Lord's hand guiding and directing our way; giving us light to raise our hearts on high, and to know more of His will, and less of

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our own; to be therefore entirely dependent on Him. This is no speculative idea; it is God the Holy Ghost taking of the things of Christ and revealing them unto us. It is only unbelief now that causes us the least fear of any ill, sorrow, or distress; for God sitteth upon the flood, overruling all things for the good of His people.

I am most thankful the Lord has so graciously dealt with you; that He has done for you all that the circumstances of your present case required. He has, in great wisdom and tenderness, taken the arrangement of them out of our hands, and done everything for our mutual comfort and peace.

I cannot pass unnoticed the awful ravages of cholera, exempting no class in our armies, and, to our feeble sight, taking individuals from among us whose valuable services could least be spared.

Dr. Mitchell, staff-surgeon to the forces, died of this disease, brought on through over fatigue in his professional duties at Alma. Colonel Hoey, of the 30th Regiment, is also dead; and it is reported 115 men died in the General Hospital at Balaklava. We can *every day*, at home as well as abroad, observe that hundreds are passing into their graves, and yet the thoughtless and the unbelieving will not alter their steps, nor take heed to their ways, but go on in their wickedness. Nevertheless, we are privileged to find "a brand" here, and "a brand" there, "plucked from the burning." We have been ourselves "blind," but now we "see." The child of God has a hope beyond the grave—"Christ in you, the hope of glory."—Col. i. 27.

The vineyards and gardens adjoining the dwelling-

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houses in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol yield delicious grapes, and various kinds of fruit. The inhabitants must have made a very sudden escape, for they left after them very valuable furniture and articles of dress, &c. The Russian chapel at Kadakoi, near Balaklava, is like the interior of a Roman Catholic chapel, having elegant oil paintings suspended against the walls, numerous candles, benches or little altars, &c. The building displays some architectural taste, and is kept in the strictest cleanliness.

You have heard that the quality and quantity of our provisions have been improved. The facts are these—it is not for me to write one thing and mean another, God would not have us so act. Our provisions all along, since we took the field, have been indifferent. During the sickness in Bulgaria, the bread was so black, sour, and gritty, that it could not be eaten without causing some injury. There was at times, however, a slight increase in the quantity of the rations issued to the troops. Since our arrival in this country the want of tent-covering has caused serious injury to our general health, besides irreparable losses. I don't think the Commissariat Department is to blame, but certain officials in the Government. There has been a general want of transport for sick, medical supplies, &c.

October 2nd.—We have had 89 cases of illness, and 77 of wounds, which have been sent to Scutari. The majority of those who fell to the rere were, through fatigue, obliged to quit the ranks, there having been no transport provided to prevent such casualties occurring. Even after all my hospital equipment had been landed at Kalamita, and brought to Foozla,

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orders were issued, on the 19th of the month, that all articles left behind were to be burnt. This dispirited me greatly; the poor sick were to be uncared for. The bedding and cooking apparatus were not, however, destroyed; having procured an arraba, I had them sent to the beach. When I asked for candles the other day for the use of the Field Hospital, the reply I received was, "The exigencies of the service cannot provide everything, and if you cannot get them you must do without them," adding that every conveyance was required to get up "the shot and shell." The fact is, the Medical Department is the last thought of, and the medical officers and the sick must do the best they can by a look and a glance! This excitement is injurious to the spiritually-minded. The tempter seems to have great power under its influence; but God is greater, and if *He is for us, who can be against us?*

When we are brought together, may we be better prepared for a single-eyed service to the glory of God in following Christ, breathing nothing but Christ, glorying in nothing save Christ and Him crucified, having our conversation savoured with the Gospel of Christ, telling to all around we have touched the hem of Christ's garment, and are made whole, and are looking for a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness and peace for ever.

3rd. — After the battle of Alma two officers took me by the arms and said, "It was alone the mercy of God that saved us during the awful fire of the enemy." Well, how the Lord's name is mentioned in time of danger, and so commonly disregarded at

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other times. We have cause of rejoicing, however, to find men, even sometimes, speak of God's goodness and mercy, when made sensible that there is an Overruling Power. People think it sufficient, however, to allude to God's mercy when they see marks of special deliverance in their own cases, as well as in others, and fancy, through natural blindness, that the Almighty is a Being not to be approached in little, or every day occurrences. This is the condemnation that men love darkness rather than light. I now bid you in the name of the Lord—farewell.

LETTER XLVIII.

Camp before Sebastopol, October 4, 1854.

It is most kind and considerate that all your dear friends are so attentive to you at the needed time. The Lord provides, and will meet your wants under every circumstance of trial.

Sebastopol appears to be a pretty place; many of the houses are large and handsome, with spacious barracks, and extensive fortifications. There are several men-of-war in the harbour and in the creeks. May the Lord in His mercy and love restore peace to our land, and may this heavy calamity arouse God's people, at home and abroad, to see the hope set before them in the Gospel of Christ, and in future to employ the time of peace in doing all

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things to the glory of God, and making known to every nation His life-giving Word.

5th.—We moved yesterday afternoon from the left to the right of the encampment line. Rain came down in torrents during the night, and fancy the men without tents till to-day. One blunder follows another, to the certain injury of the soldiers. A few artillery were ordered out to fire upon a steamer in the harbour, but returned in quick time; the shot and shell came as thick as possible over them from the Russian forts.

6th.—I am rejoiced to learn the Gospel has been preached to a large congregation in the market-house, where I used to make a feeble effort to say a word for our Lord. The harvest is great, but faithful labourers are few.

May the Lord keep us peaceful, trustful, and hopeful.

7th, evening.—Dr. —— has been ill for the last two days. He has been telling me much of his past life, being convinced of his sinfulness, and that his only belief and confidence is in Christ—that, therefore, he has no fear of death. I spoke to him upon the atonement, God's sovereign grace, nothing good in man, *all* guilty before God, God only true, God's love to sinners in Christ, &c. O, for faith to stand still, to be waiting on the Lord, abounding in hope. Tell —— from me to keep the company of those who are well educated, best conducted, to avoid the "fast men," those who use profane and rough language. This is my advice, and it is the result of experience.

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LETTER XLIX.

"I have set thee for a tower and a fortress among My people, that thou mayest know and try their way."—JER. vi. 27.

Camp before Sebastopol, October 10th, 1854.

The weather has become very cold. The Russian batteries are not silent by day or night. We are sometimes without sugar; the quantity issued is not sufficient to sweeten the coffee.

Satan tells me that I may be left in this country, and many other dark things; he is never idle, but continually going about seeking whom he may devour. Why should I be fearful? and why is it that I have so little faith?

12th. — Working parties from the various regiments go out every night to dig in the trenches; each party is accompanied by a medical officer. How distinguishing the mercy that this duty does not devolve upon me.

The Lord enable you to draw largely from the wells of salvation, and have an abundance of that peace which passeth all understanding. *Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

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LETTER L.

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ."—EPHESIANS, ii. 4, 5.

Camp before Sebastopol, October 14th, 1854.

Men in a dying state, having the form of godliness, but not acknowledging the power thereof, exhibit a most pitiable frame of mind. They send for this minister, and that minister, to tell them of their sins, as if the whole matter of salvation consisted in confessing one's sins to another poor sinner, whose heart by nature is as bad as his own. A striking instance of this occurred to-day in the hospital, where I was led to direct the attention of a dying man to Jesus, "Come unto *Me*." Jesus does not say *go* to this man or to that man, but in His love invites the poor, heavy-laden sinner to come unto Himself; and His own words are, "they that come unto Me I will in nowise cast out." Man takes more heed to cunningly-devised fables than attending to the voice of the Son of God.

15th.—The Lord's Day. There are two congregations now assembled, each being addressed by its own authorized clergyman, one preaching one kind of doctrine, and the other, I know, preaching Christ and Him crucified. May God's Spirit be abundantly poured forth, to impart life and light to many a dark,

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dead soul. May you, ——, be kept rich in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

16th. — An immense cannonading this morning from the enemy's guns. The trench-work is most toilsome to the men, as they come home completely done up, having little opportunity of sleeping, and obliged to cook their food under the greatest disadvantages.

I am almost constantly engaged in matters of duty, and often obliged to make out documents and returns hurriedly, by which my mind is kept in a state of perpetual tension, interrupting my moments for deep meditation on the Word of God, and even unfitting me at times for happy communion with our blessed Lord Jesus. I find through God's wondrous grace the Rock on which I am built can never be shaken. Jesus ever liveth, and I am safe, *alive* from the dead! Satan tells me, when reading the Word of God, "there is no comfort here; look to something in the world, rather than to Christ," and so one is tempted to "look back."

> "Great God, assist me through the fight,
> Make me triumphant in Thy might;
> Thou the desponding heart canst raise—
> The victory mine, and Thine the praise."

To give you another proof how little the sick are cared for, a medical officer told me that on the line of march he was ordered by a general officer to give up his medicine-chest and medicines that they might be burnt, and so they were!

17th.—This morning, at half-past six o'clock, our

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batteries opened a tremendous cannonading; there has been nothing all day but one incessant roar of cannon, deafening to the ears, and the smoke so dense that little can be seen. I read at the dawn of day the 62nd Psalm, and you will be glad to know it came in the order of our reading. I visited my friend Dr. ——, of the — Regiment, who I heard was attacked with cholera; his countenance was so altered in an hour or two that I scarcely recognized a trace of his features. The poor fellow took me into his arms, grasping me with one hand, and folding the other around my neck, wished me in a most fainting voice, "Good bye — we shall meet again." This was a very solemn moment, parting with one for whom I had the deepest regard, and one so universally liked. My last words to him were, "*Rest* in Christ; His blood is precious; He is the Rock — your strength, peace, and confidence. Good bye, should we not meet again here below." He died soon afterwards.

18th. — The batteries opened fire very early, and continued more or less throughout the day.

The sun rises to give light, and heat, and enjoyment to man, causing the fruits of the earth to ripen for his use; yet man perverts it for the destruction of his fellow-creatures!

I have perused with peculiar interest your account of the missionary labourers in Ireland. I hope in the Lord they will have reason to say, the Lord has been with them, prospering their work and labour of love, in the hewing out of the common rock *living stones for the eternal building.*

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LETTER LI.

Camp before Sebastopol, Oct. 18, 1854.

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The Word of God, wherever taken up under the teaching of the Holy Ghost, satisfies the hungry, the faint, and the weary.

My experience is, that Christians do err in unguardedly mixing with the people of the world, having fellowship with them. Such intercourse damages the growth of the broken and contrite spirit of the new-born soul. "Can two walk together except they be agreed?"

The ambulances are only now brought into use. Notwithstanding Dr. Hall's memorandum, which has gone the round of the newspapers, no attention seems to have been paid to his most important suggestions, and consequently the sick have and will suffer, so long as authority is withheld from the head of the Medical Department in the carrying out of his plans. I heard from a very correct source that the wagons for the sick, after having been shipped at Varna for the Crimea, were ordered to be relanded, to make room for cavalry.

20th.—I was greatly pleased to-day to observe a young officer seated down by the side of a bush with an open Bible before him.

The present campaign is said to be the severest of any that has preceded it. If it was not the Lord

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that had been on my side, I know not what would have become of me. We must regard the world as being *on fire*, that our hearts and treasures be above.

The text this morning, the 21st, tells us that the Lord is not slack concerning His promises—

"His Word of promise is my food,
His Spirit is my guide;
Thus daily is my strength renew'd,
And all my wants supplied."

. . . . . .

LETTER LII.

"Watch and pray."

Camp before Sebastopol, Oct. 23, 1854.

My health has been preserved by the wondrous power and grace of God, amidst the trials and the dangers of war and pestilence.

. . . . . .

25th. — Balaklava was attacked this morning—the Light Cavalry Brigade almost cut to pieces. The Turks behaved shamefully; they ran off, leaving their guns in a battery, without firing a shot! There were some other blunders, too, I understand; however, the whole transaction has turned out badly for our poor troops, who are the bravest in the world.

27th.—Yesterday our picquets were attacked; the division drove back the enemy, leaving behind him very many killed and wounded. The loss on our

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side was comparatively small. Three Russian officers were taken prisoners on this occasion.

The Lord has never allowed me to want throughout the campaign, as though I were the special object of His care; His benefits have been numerous to me. It is only the Spirit of God melting the hard heart of stone, that enables the poor worm to *bless the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!*

When we see Jesus *lifted up* in the Gospel, all our comeliness is turned into corruption. O the forbearance of our God! how does he bear with such rebels as we!

It is very blessed to know that we have friends at home beseeching God on our behalf. Be sure the victory is ours. The Lord will deliver us; He abideth faithful—the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever.

Very much remembrance to our dear friends, Captain and Mrs. ——; they stood by us in the time of our necessites, when others fled. This is the Lord's way of dealing. Do not listen to Satan's suggestions; he will *surely* disappoint us in expecting help from man.

LETTER LIII.

"Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner-stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded. Unto you, therefore, which believe He is precious."—1 PET. ii. 6, 7.

Camp before Sebastopol, Oct. 28, 1854.

I trust in the Lord's goodness my letter to you this

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morning will reach and meet your wants at the needed moment, to quiet your fears and strengthen your hope.

The picquets captured a number of Cossack horses this morning. This is a strange, wild kind of life; and though one's position or circumstances should never be a reason for any child of God to say, he has been tempted to do evil, yet I find it hard to keep my eyes *right on*.

29th.—I thank God for all He has done and is doing for us. The day is bitterly cold and wet; but winter does not regularly set in till about the middle of next month. It is commonly said, "Whatever is, is best," provided only "whatever is" is not an evil thing, and "whatever is" is of faith to the glory of God. I stood looking at that passage this morning, which you will find in the eighth chapter of John, the twenty-fourth verse—"If ye believe not that I am *He*, ye shall die in your sins." How very plainly the fundamental doctrine of salvation is set forth in the Scriptures; to the Jews a stumbling-block, and unto the Greeks foolishness (1 Cor. i. 23).

The story you have referred me to in 2 Kings, vi. 14–16, greatly strengthens one's faith in Him who is invisible.

31st.—In the providence of God I am writing the last day of October; and though we are over 3,000 miles apart from each other, the Lord may have added another prominent proof of His love for our remembrance of this month. We are not to regard the day, or the month, one above another, but "He that regardeth the day, regardeth it *unto the Lord*."

November 1st.—The Russian army has enco-

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passed our rere; so we are the besiegers and the besieged.

Sebastopol must fall, sooner or later; there is apparently no other alternative.

Though sometimes cast down, I am marvellously sustained, having the assurance that "my hope is in God," and I need "fear no evil." The usual saying is, "No one will believe us, when we tell our friends at home of all that has happened to us in this campaign."

I send you a rough sketch of Sebastopol, and the relative position of the enemy and the Allied Armies.

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LETTER LIV.

"I will not leave you comfortless."

Camp before Sebastopol, Nov. 4, 1854.

The words of our morning's text came in as streams out of the stony rock; as waters in a dry and thirsty land; as a green pasture in a barren soil—

"The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days:
Oh! may Thy house be mine abode,
And all my work be praise."

The darkness that clouded my thoughts early this morning is all gone away. The Sun of Righteousness threw such a brightness over me that Satan fled.

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I was saying to myself, this is not faith—this is not the spirit of Christ; and in an instant my goings were made straight before me. Like Peter looking at the sea, and not on Christ, when he took his eyes off Christ, he was sinking. He wanted faith, and so do we.

6th.—Yesterday, the Lord's Day, a desperate battle was fought on the heights of Inkermann. It was a terrible struggle, and lasted from daybreak till nearly half-past four o'clock in the afternoon.

During the night the chapel bells of Sebastopol were ringing, as if the Russians were engaged in their devotions. Very early in the morning, however, there was much cheering and shouting, and evidently great excitement. The night was a dark, dreary one, and very wet indeed. The Russians were plotting all this time to put us to the route, in which they most signally failed, and suffered considerably. I should think the enemy's loss of killed and wounded did not amount to less than 15,000; our loss was about 2,400. The confusion of the battle was more than I can attempt to describe. My tent was levelled to the ground by a cannon-ball and shell; most providentially I was at the hospital at the time. The hospital tents were riddled with shot and shell, and with the utmost difficulty my poor sick got beyond the range of fire. One poor man, however, was killed while being removed. O God! put a new song of praise into our hearts, and give us the power of utterance to magnify Thy great name for Thy mercy, and Thy gracious care manifested in the sparing of my life with many others. *Very* many officers have been killed. The Lord pity the thousands of mourn-

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ers, and be a Father to the fatherless, a Husband to the widow, and a Comforter to all the afflicted.

7th.—This day the men are employed burying the dead. Humanly speaking, the battle of Inkermann would not have been fought, if proper measures had been taken in time for the defence of the place. Sir de Lacy Evans had even remonstrated on the subject without success. The newspapers justly censure the medical arrangements, and give praise to the medical officers; but they do not seem to understand that the Quartermaster-General's department is the one chiefly to blame.

LETTER LV.

"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them."—PSALM XXXIV. 7.

"He bids His angels pitch their tents
Round where His children dwell;
What ills their heav'nly care prevents,
No earthly tongue can tell."

Camp before Sebastopol, November 8, 1854.

The Lord is a very present help in trouble. The blindness of the natural man is so great, that he is led to believe he can come into the presence of God at his own will, and in his own way. Oh! how abundantly is the soul filled with satisfaction and

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peace when able, of the ability that God giveth, to draw freely, without money and without price, from the wells of salvation. Jesus says Himself, "I know them (My sheep), and they follow Me."

The alarm has just been given—"Stand to arms." We were no sooner out than the sentinels pronounced the alarm unnecessary.

My trust is in the living God, and my expectation only from Him who is all compassion and love, and does not willingly afflict. The British public has done wonders in supporting the poor wives and families of our brave soldiers, who are maintaining the honor of the British flag in an enemy's country.

I speak after the manner of men in these things; but I know the Christian acts from a principle altogether different to the world. The child of God, though *in* the world, is not *of* the world.

9th.—The Lord knows we are but dust. He does remember our frailty, and is delivering us according to the riches of His grace. How mercifully the regiment has been spared: *it is a wonder unto many.*

10th.—I fancy myself very much changed, got into a hard kind of spirit. This may be Satan's trap to tempt me from having confidence in God, and faith through the blood of sprinkling which keepeth the conscience clear before God. The joy of Satan would be to bring me down from the high standard of the calling of God, to bring me again to the icy foundation of this world, which is one day to be dissolved. How awful the crash will be! "Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for

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reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core."—Jude, 11.

11th.—The sun sets about a quarter before five o'clock. The evenings are cold and damp, and one experiences much difficulty in drying wet boots and clothes.

The Lord bless you, and keep you, and lift up the light of His countenance upon you.

LETTER LVI.

"I have declared unto them Thy name, and will declare it; that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them."—JOHN, xvii. 26.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee."—ISAIAH, xxvi. 3.

Camp before Sebastopol, November 13, 1854.

I am now living alone in my tent, my companion having left to take up his quarters in Balaklava, a place of greater security for the transaction of the important duties he has to perform than the heights of Inkermann. I love a little while of solitude. Seldom could I have hitherto enjoyed uninterrupted communion with my God and heavenly Father. My heart, too, was oftentimes sorrowed at being unable to bring many circumstances before Him. Excuses are idle. God can and will deliver His people. God overrules the acts of others for the good of His people in Christ. "If God be for us, who can be

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against us?" My soul was greatly uplifted this morning in dwelling upon the following passages of the 89th Psalm—"With whom My hand shall be established, My faithfulness and My mercy shall be with Him. I will make Him my first-born, higher than the kings of the earth. My covenant shall stand fast with him; My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Blessed be the Lord for evermore. Amen and Amen."

The evening is dark and dreary, and much rain is threatened. I am trying to comfort myself in writing to you, with my Bible before me and a charcoal fire to my feet. The 62nd Regiment has just passed our camp to take up ground to our right. Poor fellows, I pity them — how little they know of what they shall have to contend with. I heard to-day from a medical officer at Lord Raglan's that the hospitals at Scutari are in first-rate order, perfectly clean, and as good as any at home.

Evening, 15th.—It is only of the Lord's wondrous mercy, loving kindness, and compassion that I am now alive to relate briefly the dreadful exposure to danger and suffering the mighty hand of the Lord graciously brought me through during the awful storm which lasted from seven, A.M., yesterday, the 14th instant, till this morning, about seven o'clock. The gale set in with great violence, the rain fell in torrents, and after a few hours, turned to snow and sleet. Most of the tents were blown down, many carried away or extensively damaged. My poor suffering sick were in a wretched way. Not one of their tents stood, and many, through the

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violence of the wind, lost their blankets. One poor man sought shelter beneath a bush, where he died. I remained with them during the most part of the day, but had at length to seek refuge under some brush-wood near to where my tent had stood. It was *there* in that dreary spot I enjoyed the sweet, comforting presence of the Lord. *Be not afraid*, IT IS I. I am above the storm; be still, and know that I am the Lord. I change not. Those that the Father gave Me, not one of them shall perish, neither any evil come nigh their dwelling. My dwelling-place being in Christ, the sure refuge!

Evening, 16th.—We have received an addition of about fourteen hundred men to our force, which will impart confidence at this critical period. Deplorable accounts of the loss of many ships outside Balaklava Harbour, laden with specie, winter clothing, food, &c., for the troops.

17th.—I love to dwell upon that passage in the 1st Corinthians, i. 30—"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption."

LETTER LVII.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it you."—JOHN, xvi. 23.

Camp before Sebastopol, November, 20, 1854.

The Lord has abundantly made up for the little

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delay in the arrival of the post last evening, which brought me your two most welcome letters. How well we can say, "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

. . . . . .

I feel that it would be my joy to be actively engaged in the Lord's vineyard, wholly seeking to follow Him who is my "all in all."

It may be that the Lord is trying our faith. He would have His people watchful and prayerful, and alone dependant upon Himself. I would not quit the army except convinced it was the Lord's will. We have to wait upon Him to know and to do His will. "Keep not thou silent, O God; hold not Thy peace, and be not still, O God."—Psalm lxxxiii. 1.

LETTER LVIII.

"Hope thou in God."

Camp before Sebastopol, November 24, 1854.

There was very heavy firing last night. The French engineers seem to throw up works with great rapidity; only for them the siege operations would be tardy enough. They have numbers which we have not, though our poor men work like slaves, under hardships and privations. I feel I cannot stand this work much longer, considering what my constitution has already endured. Cholera has broken

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out again; the new arrivals are those chiefly attacked. We have no regular conveyance to Balaklava, so we are badly off for medical comforts and other supplies necessary for the sick. All my flannels and socks are nearly worn out. The cold pinches me; my bed is the only place of warmth.

26th. — The Lord's Day. Corporal —— and I met together this morning. We read the 107th Psalm, and enjoyed a little united prayer. Our hearts condemn us through unbelief, and the allurements of Satan. God in His sovereign grace has taught us by His Holy Spirit that He is a God of love, unchangeable and faithful unto the end. We are too apt to trust our native strength, and then we stumble. In the times of distress and anguish of heart, we have the assurance that God is a very present help, and never forgets the poor and needy, nor turns a deaf ear to their cry. "Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord."—Psalm xxxi. 24.

27th. — Thank the Lord, amidst pestilence, the sword, and death, I am alive and well. "In everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." —Philip. iv. 6. The cold is so intense I must turn into bed. Farewell.

LETTER LIX.

Camp before Sebastopol, Nov. 28th, 1854.

A young lad by the name of Lewis has been recently admitted into hospital, labouring under severe

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illness. He has only joined a few days since from England. His parents live in Somersetshire. It was very happy to hear this young soldier rejoicing in the Lord on his being conveyed to one of the hospital tents, saying, "I know if I die I'll go to heaven, for Christ died for me. I am sure my sins are all forgiven. Lord, my Saviour! O, Lord, my Saviour." These precious words he repeated several times, and when a little more composed and free from pain, he uttered the following lines:—

"Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Not the labour of my hands
Can fulfil Thy law's demands;
Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

Jesus the friend of sinners gives us the promise, "I will never leave you;" all earthly friends may fail, but "*I never will.*" The good Lord "satisfieth thy mouth with good things, so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." Jesus—what a friend! We should remember His words, "Occupy till I come."

29th.—Cholera has caused great ravages among the troops. The roads were so bad this day that food could be only supplied to the sick. What a time to cast our care upon the Lord Jehovah! what a time for "the stubborn sinews of our knees" to be bent before the throne of grace! It is time for England to humble herself, and confess her iniquity, for it is great! Paul was taught a deep lesson when the Lord sent the "messenger of Satan to

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buffet him, lest he should be exalted above measure." "For my strength," he says, "is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." May we be led of the Holy Ghost to say, "All my springs are in Thee." "I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live. I will sing praise to my God while I have my being; my meditation of Him shall be sweet."

30th.—This day closes the calendar month. How many have been called away from dwelling on the earth, and few apparently awakened to the awful summons, "Prepare to meet thy God!" I was present just now at the execution of a will made by a corporal of the regiment. When he had let go the end of the pen, which I held in my hand while marking the man's signature, he said, "done," or "it is done," or "over," or some little word which I could hardly catch from the feebleness of his sinking voice. I had been speaking to him before on the sinner's only way of escape, so I said, "Our blessed Lord's words when He had made His great will were similar, 'It is finished;' that great will to poor sinners, giving eternal life to all who believe in Him." I added, if his friends refused to believe his will as a testamentary document, they would be like perishing sinners refusing Christ as the way of salvation, casting aside God's Word, written so clearly and so incontrovertibly. This was said in the presence of Captain ——, and a sick man of intelligence close by, who seemed deeply affected. I think there is great meaning in that passage—O, there is deep, deep love of the Saviour to the worms of the earth,

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to poor man—"When Jesus, therefore, had received the vinegar, He said, 'It is finished.'" Jesus drank every drop of that bitter cup — what a full cup of sorrow! — "the chastisement of our peace was laid upon Him!" What a sweet cup of remembrance of His dying love He left His disciples to drink of! The spiritual discernment of His death is a subject of the deepest concern to the believer; it truly is one which the melting power of the Holy Ghost can only bring to the heart.

December 1st. — While the Lord permits me to enter upon another month, He seems to be preparing a way for my escape out of this miserable place. Whatever He orders I can count upon as coming from a God of love, in whom is no variableness or shadow of turning:—

"Stand thou still this day, and see
Wonders wrought, and wrought for thee."

LETTER LX.

"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord."—PSALM cxii. 7.

Camp before Sebastopol, December 2nd, 1854.

Lewis is greatly better; he lays great stress upon the words, "*Christ died for sinners.*" I rode to Balaklava; the horse sank to his knees in mud at every step. I feel deeply tried at times (See 1 Peter, i. 7). It is very encouraging and comforting

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that so many are engaged in prayer for us. May the whole work be of God. The dear letter of Miss —— reached me; though weak in body, "strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might;" Christ her only hope.

6th.—We were disturbed this evening by the peculiar startling call of the sentinels, "*stand to arms.*" We were out in a minute, but soon again retired to rest. The least movement of the enemy puts our camp into a stir, which is unpleasant enough when one has quietly settled down to obtain some sleep.

I am now in the receipt of an order to proceed to Balaklava and report my arrival to the principal medical officer at that station. This may lead to further deliverances. "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord."—Psalm cxvi. 12, 13.

Balaklava, 7th. — I have seen Dr. ——, who is very ill in bed from overwork. It is said the army at this moment is in a state of total disorganisation, and no wonder, when so many are employed in important posts, for which they are unfitted; every one of course tries to exonerate himself, and attach blame to the next person, and so on. We cannot see the shortest distance before us; our walk, therefore, should be *by faith*, and *not by sight*.

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LETTER LXI.

"I am the resurrection and the life."

On board the steam ship, ——, in the Black Sea,
December 13th, 1854.

I have been so busy the last few days that I seize the first moment to write a few lines. On the 8th instant I was ordered on board the steamer ——, to take charge of sick and wounded proceeding to Scutari. About 300 were put on board, besides a few officers. The men were sent to the vessel in a most deplorable condition, hungry and thirsty, cold and miserably clad, their clothes covered with mud. Many of the men seemed in a dying state, and three died before we left the harbour. It was with the utmost difficulty I procured hot drinks, &c., as the orderlies are merely ill-trained recruits, and the number not sufficient. When I applied to the military authority for an additional number, the reply I received was, "*I cannot help you.*" The ship, too, is not in working trim, and instead of a rudder, a piece of mast is attached to the stern. There is, however, a steamer accompanying us. We left yesterday, about 12, noon.

14th. — Last evening, just before dark, we gave signal for assistance, the "make-shift rudder" having proved unsuccessful; the wind and waves were at the time rising. The escorting vessel bore down

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at dark, and through some negligence a collision took place between us. So great was the *crash*, one immediately following the other, that there was some apprehension of danger. I have an assistant-surgeon with me, who is hard working, but fancy we are obliged at times to perform the duties of cook, clerk, orderly, and dresser. The sick are accommodated in three separate compartments; some are in berths, but a great many are arranged in rows along the lower deck. Several of them have lost the use of their limbs from exposure to wet and cold in the camp. To give you some idea of the half-famished state of the men, the moment the pudding was brought out of the cook-house, those of them who were able seized upon it, grasped the full of each hand, and then went off. O, Lord, strengthen me in thy faith, fear, and love, for Jesu's sake, and make me always believing, and not doubtful.

15th. — Another day in the Black Sea. The steamer is towing us; we are making for the entrance of the Bosphorus.

17th. — I was very busy yesterday. We are now at anchor off Therapia; the scenery is delightful. The Lord be praised for having brought us in safety across the Black Sea. The Lord cares for His people in every path of duty; He may at times bring them into most trying circumstances, but it is to manifest His love and Fatherly care over them.

21st. — Last evening two steamers towed us down to Scutari. The Lord be thanked, we have at length arrived. There have been several deaths during the voyage, and I wonder the mortality has not been greater. Men so frightfully reduced in

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bodily strength, and labouring under active disease, should not have been submitted to the discomforts of a voyage, protracted under the circumstance of a disabled ship! In remarking on the voyage I wrote as follows: — "Owing to much confusion in the embarkation of the sick at Balaklava, no correct list was furnished to me of the regiments, &c., to which they respectively belonged. Some conception may be formed of the great difficulty experienced in obtaining a nominal roll of the men under my charge, considering the urgent, and almost unceasing demands upon my time, in attending to the wants of the patients; very many of whom were received on board in a state of deplorable wretchedness, from protracted illness and suffering of the camp life.

"I have to notice the able assistance afforded me by Assistant-Surgeon ———, who with myself had to perform varied duties of an arduous nature, in the absence of an hospital sergeant, or a non-commissioned officer competent to act in such a capacity, and above all, without an efficient staff of orderlies."

LETTER LXII.

"I will guide thee with Mine eye." "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Scutari, December 26th, 1854.

May the Lord enable you in due time to read my

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letter of this morning's date, and give you consolation through the good news it contains, and lift up your voice to bless Him, the God of all comfort and love.

I dined with ——; had much conversation on the unchangeable faithfulness of our covenant-God, the need of more grace, the difference between the man of God and the man of the world, under circumstances of trial and temptation, on preaching the Gospel, our nothingness out of Christ. The Lord be graciously pleased to bring us soon together for Christ's sake.

28th. — I received a very short notice this morning to return to the Crimea. The Lord showers down blessings upon His helpless dependent children. May our treasure be above, our eyes fixed on Christ, knowing that the Lord is the great Jehovah, the great I Am.

I visited St. Sophia, which presents a cathedral-like appearance; very splendid inside, having a large dome and central space for worship, with long corridors. One striking difference between the interior of a mosque and Romish churches is the absence of pictures. At the time of my visit worship was going on; a large congregation of women were being addressed by two priests, who seemed to be much excited in delivering their discourses. This was a melancholy picture, indeed, of man's teachings and doctrines! But strange to say, there are men among us who refuse to enter the kingdom of heaven, and try to hinder others by cavilling and ridicule. A peculiar instance of this occurred on board the vessel now taking me to Bala-

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klava. On the day of our departure a colporteur came on board to distribute Testaments among the troops, who gladly received them, much however to the indignation of one of the ship's officers, who was rather checked when I asked him, "Is it not a good thing to be giving out the Testaments, and to find the men receiving them?"

30th. — I have been this day answering questions put to me by the commissioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the sick and wounded.

January 1st, 1855. — "As thy days so shall thy strength be." We are permitted to enter upon the new year, not knowing what the Lord in His love and grace has in store for us. We need not doubt, for the promise is, "I will never leave thee." The Lord does consider our low estate and gives us much to praise Him for, and to trust Him with our future. Behold His love during the past months of our separation; His sustaining grace in the midst of dangers and anxieties!

"Each future scene to Thee I leave;
Sufficient 'tis to know
Thou can'st from ev'ry evil save,
And ev'ry good bestow."

I was happy and thankful to hear one of the young chaplains say, "I am not come out to extol the soldiers as soldiers, but to speak to them as sinners, acquainting them of the good news of the Gospel of Christ." It has been frequently said by men of the world, and recently to myself, "You are not to judge of others, for these very men may some

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day become children of God." True, we are not to judge of men as to their being eternally lost; but it is written, "By their fruits ye shall know them."—Matt. vii. 20. We are, therefore, to judge of a man's *walk and conversation.* We should love to quote such passages as these—John, iii. 18–21.

LETTER LXIII.

"He that keepeth thee will not slumber."—PSALM cxxi., part of 3rd verse.

Camp before Sebastopol, Jan. 11, 1855.

On the 8th instant I had instructions to attend the sick and wounded on board the steamer ——, about to proceed to Scutari. Having been with them all night, I was ordered, on the following morning, to proceed to the front, to take medical charge of the —— Regiment, the surgeon and assistant of which had just died. The journey over the camp-field was cold, and wet, and most disagreeable. The pressure of duty is more than I can bear. I am single-handed at the work; no one, I may say, to assist me, as Dr. —— has to be in the trenches. The sick in the hospital-tents are in a most wretched condition, requiring constant watching, and, deplorable to say, the necessary supplies of comfort are not to be got. My mind is almost distracted. Men and horses are positively dying from over-work and want of care.

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"In the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion: in the secret of His tabernacle shall He hide me; He shall set me upon a rock."—Psalm xxvii. 5.

"The saints should never be dismay'd,
Nor sink in hopeless fear;
For when they least expect His aid,
The Saviour will appear."

"Thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation."—Psalm xxvii. 9.

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LETTER LXIV.

"Be still, and know that I am God."

Camp before Sebastopol, Jan. 16, 1855.

During the last few days, from incessant labour and the severity of the cold, I could not sit down to write with any degree of satisfaction. There is a considerable depth of snow on the ground; the frost so intense at night that it penetrates through the tents, and lodges on the inside. Many of the men's feet are frost-bitten. The appearance is that of mortification, the result, no doubt, of impoverished blood from improper food, clothing, and shelter, under the depressing influence of exposure to excessive cold.

I send you Captain ——'s note, of the Engineers, with which you will be pleased. It is so happy

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meet a fellow-pilgrim, having the same hopes, joys, and sorrows.

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LETTER LXV.

Camp before Sebastopol, Jan. 20, 1855.

This day the Lord seemed to answer my prayer, in having sent me good tidings of yourself. While the Lord permits His people to pass through trials, He is caring for them in His own appointed way to bring glory to Himself through Jesus, in whom is centred the Father's love.

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A medical officer's duty, in a campaign constituted as the present, is of the most varied kind, just as it was during the Peninsular war: he must be able to cook, dispense medicines, dress wounds, perform the combined duties of physician and surgeon, understand the building of huts, &c.

The flower of the army that first landed, I may say, is gone! All the boasted supplies from England will have reached when thousands have perished, and many of those remaining will be broken down in constitution.

The Lord stablish, strengthen, settle you, through faith in Christ Jesus, to have strong hope amidst the clouds that threaten us. Before Sebastopol falls, how great must be the cost of human life, and how dreadful the accounts that must necessarily follow, plunging thousands and thousands of families into

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deep sorrow! And do people contemplate the awful position that a man is eternally placed in by rejecting the counsel of God in His plan of salvation, and deceiving himself by the delusive idea that God will accept him, because of "falling gloriously in the defence of his country!"

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LETTER LXVI.

Camp before Sebastopol, Jan. 24, 1855.

Captain ——, R.E., spent the evening with me; we talked, read, and prayed together. The poor soldiers are now worked harder than ever. I heard that Dr. Hall said to Lord Raglan—"My Lord, you will have about 5,000 men fit for service by March next!" This, no doubt, will arouse the apathetic, and excite the slumbering energies of some to be active in getting up the huts, and supplies of food and clothing. Many are blinded to the real state of things; they will not go to the hospitals to witness the misery and wretchedness of the patients.

The late Mr. Krause well said, "The day is when the Christian must stand alone." The people of God would do well to remember that they have nothing but what is the pleasure of the Lord to bestow; that "a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His knowledge;" that the principle which makes a man different from the way of the world is from above, out of the reach of man and Satan, immortal and eternal, neither engendered by man, nor fostered by man, nor secured by man. To God be the glory;

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let His name be known and felt to be our high tower, our rock, our strength.

This is an awful place. May the Lord bring me out of it, and deliver me from the deep waters that well nigh overwhelm me; make haste, O Lord, to help me, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

LETTER LXVII.

Camp before Sebastopol, Jan. 27, 1855.

Our covenant God has His purposes fixed and sealed in His wise councils. Man cannot alter them. Through unbelief we are slow in perceiving the constancy of His watchful care and tenderness. The Prince of Peace is our sun, and shield, and joy, and crown of rejoicing. He surely is not a wilderness to His people in this world of tribulation.

"Why those fears? Behold 'tis Jesus
Hodls the helm, and guides the ship;
Spread the sails and catch the breezes,
Sent to waft us through the deep,
To the regions
Where the mourners cease to weep."

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LETTER LXVIII.

Scutari, February 22, 1855.

The Lord be praised I am able to write a line. I have been thinking and praying the good Lord would

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strengthen your heart with an abundance of His grace when you receive Mr. ——'s letters,* respecting the nature of my illness. In the providence of our covenant God I was brought out of the camp. I have little remembrance of my removal. The day, I know, was very wet, and on reaching Balaklava I was put on board one ship, and then transferred to another. The fever set in with low symptoms; my nights for a fortnight were passed without any particular amount of sleep. I am still very weak and nervous. The Lord was mindful of all my wants, and raised up friends who cared for me at every stage of my

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* Copies. British Army, Crimea, Friday, February 9.

My dear Mrs. ——,

Dr. —— wishes me to write to you, as, from a slight attack of illness, he is not able, at least, he could do it, but his medical man does not advise it; so, to prevent any uneasiness to you, he asked me to write a line.

He has a bilious attack, which is attended with a slight headache. He has vomited, and is easier; every care is being taken of him, and I assure you that he looks forward to writing to you himself in a post or so. I should think that he will require change after it, and probably he may go down to Scutari; but I will not fail to let you know, if he is unable, of his movements and doings.

You must not think that because he cannot write to you, and that because I am writing, that he is in any extremity. I assure you it was his own wish that I should write, that you might not be kept in suspense, and that I was to tell you not to be downhearted about it, as probably in a few days he would be all right.

I am glad to tell you that he is very, very happy—full of faith and trust in his Master, who can and will again restore him to you in health and strength once more.

I had my doubts about writing to you, because I thought you

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journey. This is a short letter, but one that will rejoice your heart.

LETTER LXIX.

"Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."—HEB. xii. 11. (See 22–24 verses of same chapter.)

Barrack Hospital, Scutari, Feb. 23, 1855.

Your most precious letter of 27th ultimo followed

might be more alarmed than you need be. May He comfort you and support you, who can do so most gently! May you be strengthened and kept in all chances!

I am, Madam, sincerely yours,

—— ——, Chaplain.

British Army, Crimea, Feb. 12.

MY DEAR MADAM,—I am happy to tell you that Dr. —— is better. The medical man pronounces him to be so far advanced as to be able to go down to Balaklava to-morrow on board ship, for change of air and diet. I am glad of it, as he himself wishes for the quiet of a ship. The camp is not a place for a convalescent, and I hope in a few days he will be all right again.

You know in whom to trust at this season, and that you may be preserved is my most anxious wish and prayer. If I can get any information about Dr. —— from Balaklava by the next post, be sure you shall have it. In haste, as the post is just closing.

I remain, yours most truly,

—— ——.

P.S.—The medical man told me that he had no dangerous symptom at all. I trust that he will soon be himself again.

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me here from the Crimea, and through the wondrous care of our heavenly Father I am alive to be now feasting on its contents. I am still very feeble; indeed I am surprised at the rapid way in which my strength has left me. The Lord Jesus is on my right hand, and on my left, for He is my rod and staff, and has promised never to leave nor forsake His own redeemed ones. My frame is like a reed shaken with the wind. "My flesh and my heart faileth; but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever." How happy it is to soar on high—to take flight from this land of trouble, and dwell in regions where the mourners cease to weep, on that happy, tranquil shore! "Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ."

24th.—This is my first day in the arm-chair. To be out of bed after sickness is a great relief, and tends to one's speedy recovery. The Lord seems to be watching over me, as a father his children in whom he delighteth. The Lord brings me everything and everybody for my comfort and help. The words of Jesus are suitable to His people under every circumstance; we both take peace from them, for the same spirit is given unto us, "whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

25th.—The words of the morning's text bring meat and drink to my soul (Job, v. 17–20).

"In the furnace God may prove thee,
Thence to bring thee forth more bright;
But can never cease to love thee,
Thou art precious in His sight:
God is with thee,
God thine everlasting light."

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I enjoy the quiet here, away from the turmoil, privation, exposure, and distress of the camp life; my mind, too, is free from witnessing gloomy scenes of "man being a mass of bruises and putrifying sores."

LETTER LXX.

"But I will hope continually, and will yet praise Thee more and more."—PSALM lxxi. 14.

Barrack Hospital, Scutari, Feb. 27, 1855.

I feel I must get change of air for my recovery; few can stand a relapse; many have died under a second attack of fever.

In the present day there is much profession of religion, and it behoves the children of God to be very strong and watchful, and to feel they have weight and power, because God is on their side, and man cannot prevail. This should make believers bold in making known the name of Jesus, as the way, the truth, and the life. "We are the clay, and Thou our potter."

28th.—We received the shock of an earthquake this afternoon; it lasted about one minute and a-half. The shaking sensation was most peculiar, and so affected the building, that many of the patients, hitherto unable to get out of bed, soon crawled out of the hospital, much to their own astonishment.

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LETTER LXXI.

Scutari, March 1, 1855.

When you read my name in the "Monthly Obituary," your heart must have almost sunk within you. Jesus, our never-failing friend, was your peace and support at that sorrowful moment: sad intelligence, indeed, to have reached you! I know not how the mistake could have occurred; but the Lord be praised I am still living, in the hope of our soon meeting again here below. Let us take warning whose we are; our days are as a handbreadth. Let us labour "while it is day"; the night cometh when no mancan work."

I commit you to the keeping of Him "Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."—1 Cor. x. 13.

LETTER LXXII.

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace."—JOHN, xvi. 33.

Scutari, March 5, 1855.

The Lord is only to be trusted, and He only praised. When the eyes are opened to the things of

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God in Christ, there is intelligence in taking the cup of salvation, and calling upon the name of the Lord. We poor creatures, "prisoners of hope," can only receive our daily food from Him who holds us in the hollow of His hand. My joy has been increased by frequent visits from the dear brethren at Constantinople, who have remembered my need of communion with fellow saints. Deeply to be regretted these followers of the Lord Jesus are not permitted to visit the sick and wounded in our hospitals, who are truly in great want of spiritual help. I am surprised to find the books in the chaplain's library are of a very mixed description, and very many of them objectionable.

LETTER LXXIII.

"Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart."—PSALM xcvii. 11.

Scutari, March 8, 1855.

The country has now all the liveliness of spring; the fields are beautifully green, and the garden-trees covered with blossom. The purple-blossomed tree presents a peculiar appearance, and is named "Judas."

I need great humility, a broken and contrite spirit, a continual sitting at the feet of Jesus, learning of Him. Sweet peace He gives—"My peace I give unto you."

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I have just heard that the surgeon who attended me in the camp, and the chaplain who kindly wrote to you of my illness, are both dead. They were attacked with fever in a few days after my removal, under which they both sank; and now my servant lies dangerously ill. This has given me a great shock. The Lord has surely shown me great kindness in a strange land. This is His providence—He lifteth up one and putteth down another. Not our will, but His be done.

My kindest remembrance to our dear friends, ——, hoping that each and all of them may have that *peace* which passeth all understanding, and know the *rest* which remaineth for the people of God. May our loving Father keep you in perfect peace, and always stayed upon Himself.

LETTER LXXIV.

"While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being."

Scutari, March 12, 1855.

I generally read the remarks in the newspapers which refer to the army and the war; but I think it dangerous for Christians to be *fond* of reading newspapers, because we must be watchful of everything likely to entangle us with the affairs of this life.

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LETTER LXXV.

Scutari, March 15, 1855.

We need not be cast down when things go contrary to our own wishes; He who sees the end knows what is best—"His ways are different to ours." When the Lord is our guide, what occasion for fear have we? This sinful heart of mine, if left to itself, would soon bring me into doubts and unbelief. "Oh! wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God, through Jesus Christ our Lord."—Romans, vii. 24, 25.

The hospitals have every appearance of comfort; the bedding is superior to that hitherto used in the army. Indeed, these hospitals are not to be surpassed by any others, civil or military; but the state of things now must be very different to what it was on the arrival of the first wounded, according to the public reports.

One cannot but observe that interest is the road to fame in the world; and too commonly money is interest. The believer in Jesus is to stand still and be silent amidst dangers, trials, and disappointments. The believer gets above the things that perish, and has joy and peace in the things that are eternal—in the riches unknown to the world. Let us not lean on any arm of flesh; our strength is in the Lord God of heaven and earth.

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LETTER LXXVI.

Scutari, March 20, 1855.

I don't think there is any probability of peace so immediately as some have reported. No doubt, this chastening to our country is of the Lord. His purposes must be fulfilled, and His time for the accomplishment of them is the best.

I visited, in company with Mr. ——, an Armenian recently attacked with fever.

The Armenians seem to receive the truth very warmly, and hold the Word of God with much reverence. Dr. —— left to-day for England. I think and earnestly hope in the Lord our sojourn together has been profitable.

"God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform."

LETTER LXXVII.

"I will guide thee with mine eye."

Scutari, March 23, 1855.

A steamship has been named in which invalids are to proceed to England under my medical charge. Day by day our responsibilities are increased to follow the Good Shepherd who mindeth His sheep. I have been thinking of —— at this time; when he is

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launching into the world, we are all more likely to be off our guard respecting him, blinded, perhaps, by many temporal advantages his new position is calculated to hold out. I write that our hearts be encouraged to pray for him, that he may know Jesus, and knowing Him have life eternal.

When preparing my requisitions for the invalids, I met Miss Nightingale for the first time. You will remember that as I am going home on duty, it is probable I may have to return to the Crimea soon again, especially as the final assault upon Sebastopol is not many months distant.

I know that the bounds of my habitation are wisely ordered and settled in the councils of the the great Jehovah, and therefore *all is well.*

25th.—This morning, on opening my hymn-book, the following verses caught my eye:—

"Jesus, at thy command
I launch into the deep;
And leave my native land,
Where sin lulls all asleep.
For Thee I would the world resign,
And sail to heaven with Thee and Thine."

I felt so wretchedly lonely this morning that I posted off to read and pray with Mr. ——. Afterwards I visited Captain ——, who is losing a part of one foot from frost-bite. On my return to my room, I enclosed, with a note to my medical attendant, Mr. Ryle's tract, "Have you Peace?"

I will conclude, beholding and acknowledging my heavenly Father's care and love in having done all things well. He does so, and will unto the end, for

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His blood-bought people, established by an everlasting engagement, completed and settled by the Messenger of the Holy Covenant—Christ, the "alpha and omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last;" and blessed be His name for ever and ever. Amen and Amen.*

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LETTER LXXVIII.

"Trust ye in the Lord for ever; for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."—ISA. xxvi. 4. (see chap. xxv. 1, 4.)

Scutari, March 26, 1855.

The marriage referred to I trust will tend to the mutual happiness of both. If Christ is not with

* I take the following from Mr. Hobb's "New Sailing Directions;"—

"Scutari is a town of considerable extent, containing 70,000 inhabitants. It is erected on the site of the ancient Chrysopolis, and near the ruins of Chalcedon.

"Constantinople was anciently called Byzantium; but the name was changed by Constantine the Great, who made it the seat of the Roman Empire in the East. It was taken in 1453 by the Turks, who have kept possession of it ever since.

"The Grand Seignior's palace, called Seraglio, is on the seaside, surrounded by walks, flanked with towers, and separated from the city by canals. It stands on the site of the ancient Byzantium, the east point of the present city, which is reported to contain 14 imperial mosques, 300 chapels, 30 bezesteens or mar-

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them all is shipwreck; they will be at sea without a helm.

The account of the chaplain's death in the newspapers has deeply grieved me, he was so kind and so thoughtful when I was ill in the camp. The last time he was with me in my tent he appeared in robust health. This teaches us the uncertainty of life, and that our days are as an hand-breadth. May we know and realize the mighty deliverance of having "passed from death unto life."

29th.—I am now on board the vessel that is to take me home. The invalids are soon expected, and the orders are, "to sail on the 31st instant," the Lord permitting.

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ket-places, more than 500 fountains, and 100,000 houses. The city stands on a slope; the seven eminences, on which it is erected, appear to rise one above the other in beautiful succession, and the prospect is terminated by a fine green mountain in the back ground. The population is by no means accurately ascertained—it is estimated at about 520,000. The inhabitants of the suburbs are a body composed of foreigners of all nations, and in a state of continual fluctuation. The interior of Constantinople is very different from its distant appearance, for on entering it you find the streets narrow, gloomy, slanting, badly paved, and incumbered with dust and mud; the houses mostly low and mean, and their structure wood and earth. But in the suburbs there are buildings not inferior in height to those of London, Paris, or Vienna."

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LETTER LXXIX.

"Joy cometh in the morning."

Malta, April 8, 1855.

The Lord's name be praised and magnified, we anchored in the Grand Harbour at 10 o'clock last night. We had a pleasant passage, excepting two rough days.

There is talk of peace here; I do not expect it just yet. We cannot look beyond the present. God rules; the future is only known to Him.

I have been lately reading "Cecil's Remains," a most interesting and instructive book, particularly for the Christian. The author was evidently taught of the deep things of God in Christ.

I was truly rejoiced and thankful to hear of your confidence in the love of our Father's dealings towards us, under circumstances that flesh and blood could not bear. We thus strengthen each other's faith, knowing that "all things work together for our good."

We have great boldness in prostrating ourselves before the throne of grace, having the same common portion in Christ. When we see our *oneness in the flesh, and our oneness in Christ, all fear* is banished.

It is very striking to remark how graciously the

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Lord is bringing all things to pass for our good and joy in His own way and time.

We continue our voyage on the 12th instant, if the Lord permit.

LETTER LXXX.

On voyage to Gibraltar, off Carthage, April 14, 1855.

About this time twelve months I was on my way from Malta to Scutari, and now, through the loving kindness of the Lord, am returning home.

> "Though dark be my way, since He is my guide,
> 'Tis mine to obey, 'tis His to provide.
> Though cisterns be broken, and creatures all fail,
> The word He has spoken shall surely prevail."

Since yesterday afternoon the wind has been favourable, and we have been making six and eight knots, with a continuance of fine weather, which has tended greatly to improve the general health of all on board. I obtained a very good collection of books from the Agent of the Soldiers' Friend Society at Constantinople, for the use of the invalids (219 men and 16 officers).

The sea is a great type of the troubles and the changing scenes of the world—one day a calm, and then a storm; one day cloud, and then sunshine.

19th.—We arrived at Gibraltar this morning at ten o'clock, and purpose leaving for good old Eng-

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land to-morrow. Send me a few lines. "Post Office, Portsmouth—*To await arrival.*"

"Through the love of God our Saviour
All will be well.
Free and changeless is His favour,
All, all is well.
Precious is the blood that heal'd us,
Perfect is the grace that seal'd us,
Strong the hand stretch'd forth to shield us,
All must be well.

"Though we pass through tribulation,
All will be well;
Ours is such a full salvation,
All, all is well.
Happy, still to God confiding,
Fruitful, if in Christ abiding,
Holy, through the Spirit's guiding,
All must be well.

"We expect a bright to-morrow;
All will be well.
Faith can sing through days of sorrow,
All, all is well.
On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Or in living or in dying,
All *must* be well."

THE END.

Dublin: Printed by GEORGE DROUGHT, 6, Bachelor's-walk.

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